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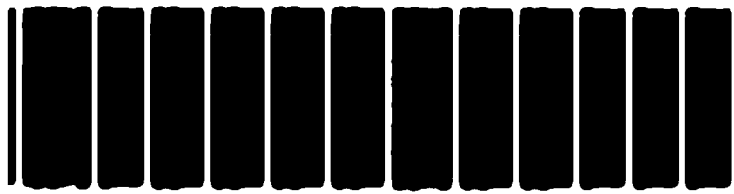








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MR. W. TAPLIN.

**T H E**  
**Gentleman's Stable Directory ;**  
**O R,**  
**M O D E R N S Y S T E M**  
**O F**  
**F A R R I E R Y.**

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All the most valuable **PRESCRIPTIONS** and approved **REMEDIES**, accurately proportioned and properly adapted to every known **DISEASE** to which the **HORSE** is incident ; interspersed with **OCCASIONAL REFERENCES** to the dangerous and almost obsolete **Practice of GIBSON, BRACKEN, BARTLET, OSMER, and others ;** also particular **DIRECTIONS** for **BUYING, SELLING, FEEDING, BLEEDING, PURGING,** and getting into **CONDITION** for the **Chase ;** with experimental **REMARKS** upon the **MANAGEMENT** of **DRAFT HORSES,** their **BLEMISHES** and **DEFECTS.**

To which is now added,

**A S U P P L E M E N T,**

**C O N T A I N I N G**

**PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS UPON THORN WOUNDS, PUNCTURED TENDONS, AND LIGAMENTARY LAMENESS.**

**WITH AMPLE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEIR TREATMENT AND CURE ;**

**Illustrated by a Recital of Cases, including a Variety of Useful Remarks ;**

**WITH A SUCCESSFUL METHOD OF TREATING THE CANINE SPECIES, IN THAT DESTRUCTIVE DISEASE CALLED**

**T H E D I S T E M P E R.**

**By WILLIAM TAPLIN, SURGEON.**

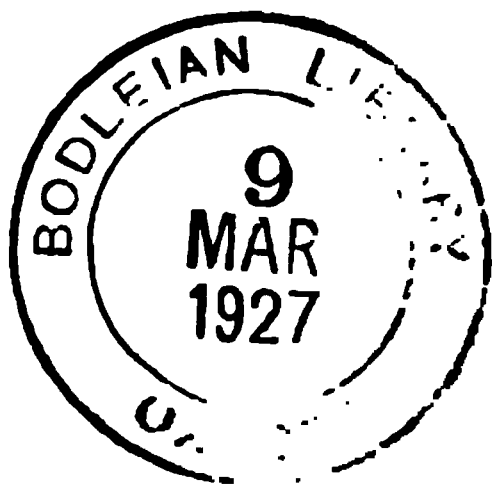
**T H E T W E L F T H E D I T I O N.**

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**PRINTED FOR G. G. J. & J. ROBINSON, PATERNOSTER-ROW,  
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**MDCCXCIII.**





T O

*Sir JOHN LADE, Bart.*

THE very distinguished character and eminent situation you support in the *sporting world*, to the great pleasure and admiration of those who surround you in the *field* and accompany you in the *chase*, will, in the opinion of every experienced SPORTSMAN, sufficiently justify the consistency and propriety of inscribing to you this earnest endeavour to rescue from the frequent and *dreadful* effects of STABULARIAN *ignorance*, and EMPIRICAL *confidence*, the future *ease, safety,* and *preservation*, of an animal that not only

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constitues

constitutes to every SPORTSMAN one of the noblest blessings in life, but, in the splendour of your *stud*, *stables*, and *equipage*, affords ample display of your TASTE, JUDGMENT, and LIBERALITY. It is a gratification highly flattering, that I have the present opportunity to subscribe myself,

With respect and admiration,

SIR JOHN,

Your most obedient,

And very humble servant,

THE AUTHOR,

TO THE  
READER,

ON THE PUBLICATION OF THE

ELEVENTH EDITION.

**I**T would be a tacit acknowledgment of the author's total insensibility to every gratification of ambition, was he to omit the communication of acknowledgments, that, in their general diffusion, contribute so very much to his own honour. And he must ever consider it no small compliment to his endeavours, that the work is universally known to have been crowned with the most perfect success. The very great and almost unlimited portion of support that has so singularly sanctioned its birth, sufficiently demonstrates the absolute want of such publication.

This pleasing incense to literary vanity could be increased only by the constantly accumulating encomiums, and *most substantial* proofs of private approbation, from some of the first characters within the circle of *The Royal Hunt* and *Favour*. Sportsmen, the propitious omen of whose patronage not only



reflects rays of additional honour, but whose judgment, equestrian knowledge, and practical experience, jointly establish a *criterion* of *equity* that will ever render the author *invulnerable* to the barbed and envenomed arrows of *menstrual criticism*.

The rapid circulation of T E N large impressions has forcibly influenced the author to make such additions and improvements as will, he has every reason to believe, render it of still greater *utility*, by the introduction of many useful observations for the *preservation* of *health* and *promotion* of *condition*, as well as the *treatment* and *cure* of disease.

The proper management of *draft horses* is more particularly attended to; their blemishes and defects are in many instances evidently accounted for; and the modes of prevention, in general, clearly pointed out. Several efficacious prescriptions are likewise added, and a variety of useful instructions introduced, for the distinct and separate information of *metropolitan jockies*, *juvenile purchasers*, and *inexperienced sportsmen*; with very interesting hints for the purposes of *buying* and *selling*, including (among many other striking and advantageous particulars) a superficial survey of that *immaculate* mart of integrity—A *Modern Repository*.

## PREFACE.

## P R E F A C E.

**I**T is a truth, generally acknowledged and universally lamented, that amidst all the improvements of the present age, none has received so little advantage from the rays of refinement as the *Art of Farriery*. And it must be likewise confessed, it is an ill compliment to a country abounding with *sportsmen*, and those remarkable for their extreme liberality, that the intellectual faculties of many distinguished members of the different learned societies should be absorbed in abstruse contemplations and intense lubrications upon the *antiquity* of a *coin*, the *proboscis* of an *elephant*, the *genus* of an *exotic*, or the *beautiful variegations* of a *butterfly* ; whilst a branch of science and study, involving the health, safety, and preservation, of the most beautiful and esteemed animal this kingdom has to boast, is neglected, as derogatory to the dignity of a man of letters : and, from this mistaken idea of degradation, a subject of so much consequence has been for many years submitted to the arbitrary dictation of the most illiterate part of the community, without a single effort of weight or influence to abolish the ancient and almost obsolete mode of practice ; or a single attempt made, from *proper authority*, to introduce the modern improvements and discoveries in every branch of medicine. It is most certain there is no one period of history where the horse has been ranked so high in general estimation.

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estimation, or rendered of such intrinsic worth, by a display of his various powers, as in the present age of experiment and refinement.

- To this cause may undoubtedly be attributed the very great attention paid for some years past to the breed of the distinct and separate classes for the turf, field, road, or draft ; and as their value has, in a very short space of time, absolutely doubled their former worth, surely we ought to be proportionally anxious for their preservation, whether for *sport*, *convenience*, or *emolument*. The almost incredible number of this truly valuable part of the creation, that annually fall victims to the invincible confidence of those rustic sons of VULCAN, self-denominated *farriers*, (with the thunder of whose ignorance almost every village resounds), has for years seemed to implore the assistance of some intelligent member of society to come forward; and, by blending the administration of medicines with a practical knowledge of their *properties* and *effects*, rescue the poor suffering animals from the constant, invariable, and unrelenting depredations of illiterate *practitioners* and experimental *persecutors*.

Well aware of the arduous task of attempting to eradicate vulgar and habitual prejudices in favour of ancient practice, or the improbability of reconciling attachments of long standing to the rational system of modern composition ; and the little chance of ex-  
ploding

ploding entirely the heterogeneous and inconsistent *farrago* so long in use, universal satisfaction is not to be expected, or approbation obtained. But when a clear, open, and candid comparison is drawn by the more enlightened, between the accumulation of contrarities in the laboured prescriptions “of GIBSON and BRACKEN,” with the indigested observations of the more intelligent, though less prolix and digressive, “BARTLET,” the least doubt is not entertained but every degree of favour will be shewn to a system of practice founded on *reason*, supported by *experience*, and justified by a general knowledge of *medicines*, their *principles*, *properties*, *preparations*, and *effects*.

To dispel the gloom of ignorance from the brow of obstinacy would be a task of HERCULEAN labour; I therefore wave every idea of animadversion upon the intuitive knowledge of those, who, wrapt up in the warm and happy consolation of their own wisdom, never suffer their *solid judgments* to be warped by the intrusion of new opinions; and proceed to make the necessary remarks upon the qualifications of those country practitioners who rank very high in SELF-ESTIMATION.

And such observations as are rendered unavoidable shall occasionally appear with all possible delicacy, wishing to irritate, as little as may be, the feelings of any individual, whose want of cultivation and improvement

provement must be considered a misfortune, not a crime; but in whose deficiency of professional knowledge consists the danger which so often occurs, and exposes him to that labyrinth of perplexity, that dilemma of distress, from which no brilliant fertility of genius, no idea of the structure of parts, no corresponding knowledge of medicines, or their effects, can possibly arise to extricate him, whilst the suffering animal (in perhaps the most excruciating agonies) expires at the feet of this "*learned judge,*" *jury,* and *executioner.*

Experience justifies the assertion, that nine times out of ten the complaint (if internal) remains a matter of hypothesis and conjecture, without one explanatory *note, sentence, shrug, or ejaculation,* by which we may be led to understand or discover the cause: but, as professional stupidity must be defended, we are at last told (with a systematic simplicity and vacuity of countenance) "*the horse is in a great deal of pain.*"

This first point being (not without some difficulty and seeming depth of thought) at length discovered, the remedy is then to be obtained; and as, in general, cowards once pushed on become bold in proportion to the danger, so, according to the exigency, some powerfull "*Mandragora*" of the "*Materia Medica*" is instantly procured; and, as reputation must be supported, so "*kuff or cure,*" (time out of  
7 mind

mind the ancient and modern medical motto) is compulsively adopted, and the whole *arcana* of equestrian knowledge is let loose, from the very simple preparation of "*sugar fops*," to the more remote, active, and dangerous *mercury*, till relief is fortunately obtained, or the falling favourite expires, in tortures, a martyr to the *ignorance* of the *practitioner* and the *credulity* of its owner!

To corroborate this fact, one self-evident observation only is necessary to give it due weight, in opposition to a mind even prejudiced against the *INNOVATIONS* of improvement in practice or rectification in judgment. For instance—Is it possible—can it (after a moment's reflection) be supposed—that these men, totally uncultivated in understanding and the most common occurrences in life, whose minds are as rude and uncivilized as their manners, can be at all conversant or acquainted with the different *properties, qualities, operations, or effects*, of a long list of medicines, to all of which they are strangers even in appearance, possessing no other knowledge of the very articles specified but what they have acquired from books and prescriptions, long since become obsolete and useless from their inefficacy? Can they be expected to understand the chemical processes of *mercury, antimony*, and other dangerous medicines they constantly put into use, without knowing their origins, preparations, combination of principles, or the exact

exact line of distinction that renders them *salutary remedies* or *powerful poisons*?

It is also highly necessary to introduce a matter perfectly applicable to the subject of investigation, as an imposition very little known. (except to the faculty); and is a palpable disgrace to that body, of which every professor of medicine constitutes a member. It is the common and scandalous adulteration of drugs, a practice too prevalent amongst the *drug-gists* in the *metropolis*, as well as the country; who, from the predominant passion of gain, so curiously adulterate, as to deceive even those who consider themselves adepts in deception. And this, to be the better enabled to undersell their competitors, convinced, by experience, the majority of **FARRIERS** admit the medicines that can be purchased **CHEAPEST** to be much **THE BEST**.

These circumstances are not introduced or hazarded as matters of opinion, but as palpable facts that speak home to every reader of judgment or experience; and sufficiently indicate the necessity of circulating, from medical authority, the present improved system of modern composition, universally adopted and generally approved, to the approaching extermination of *empirical practice* and *dangerous experiment*. This publication being undertaken to render as plain and familiar as possible a subject that has, through almost every dissertation, been obscured by  
the



the *mist* of *ignorance* and *mask* of *mystery* ; it is anxiously to be desired in future, that every *gentleman* who has occasion to elucidate or illustrate his own understanding, by calling to his assistance any of the *learned tribe* before described, so remarkable for their extent of communication, will (previous to their administration of medicine.) require an explanatory prelude, with satisfactory information upon what *operations* they frame their expectations of relief and success ;—with the very necessary and additional recommendation, to be particularly careful to obtain their medicines from *Dispensaries* of *repute*, where the *proprietor* is reported or supposed to have formed a *fair, honourable, and equitable* contract with *emolument* and *reputation*.

And this caution is rendered more immediately worthy consideration, by the multiplicity of specious advertisements so constantly held forth to promote the lucrative sale of innumerable *balls, powders, and pastes*, individually infallible for every disorder to which the horse is incident. But what renders the circumstance still more extraordinary, is their being prescribed and prepared, by those very *metropolitan practitioners* in medicine, whose equestrian possessions *never* amounted to a *single steed* ; whose journeys or unexperimental practice *never* exceeded the diurnal progressions of a *hackney-coach* ; and whose great anxiety for the general good *never* surpassed the idea of *cent. per cent.* in the circulation. This observation comes with a much

better grace, when I can assure the public, one of the very first advertisers in this way was a medical adventurer, who having failed as a *pharmacopelist*, at the west end of the town (as did his successor also), they, in *rotation*, adopted the alternative of necessity, in pompously advertising “ Horse medicines for the use “ of the nobility and gentry.” How well they succeeded, the creditors of *both* can *most feelingly* testify ; and of their compositions the reader will be best enabled to form a competent opinion, when, in the course of the work, *nostrums* and *quack medicines* become the necessary subjects of animadversion.

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T H E  
M O D E R N   S Y S T E M  
O F  
F A R R I E R Y.

**T**HE very great discoveries made in the present century have certainly extended to every art and science that could be materially improved by intense study and application; and to none more than the administration of medicine, and its effects upon the HUMAN BODY, by some of the most learned men in every part of Europe: and, from the rapid and universally acknowledged improvements in this system, the most admirable advantages have been obtained, and incredible cures performed. In such general refinement, the ancient mode of practice is not only exploded, but its origin and advocates nearly buried in oblivion. Those stupendous folios,  
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the voluminous herbals in the libraries of the botanical votaries, have reluctantly given place to various dissertations on the distinguished efficacy of those grand specifics, *mercury, opium, antimony, bark, &c.* of which so many experimental and efficacious preparations have been discovered by chemical process, as to render of little use or respect any prescription of antient date, when put in competition with the rational and approved system of modern improvements. The obstinate and invincible advocates for the ancient mode of practice, whether in physic or farriery, are at length obliged to acquiesce in the change; for, what they by inclination were not willing to acknowledge, TIME, TRUTH, and EXPERIENCE, have fully confirmed. But, strange as it may appear, (yet shamefully true it is!) notwithstanding this rectification of judgment, very little has yet been done to improve, or produce a change in, the long standing, absurd, and ridiculous SYSTEM of FARRIERY; a change as equally *necessary, just, laudable, equitable, and useful*, as any that can be adopted for the general safety and advantage of our own species. And this becomes more necessarily and immediately the object of serious consideration,

consideration, when circumstances daily evince to the medical practitioner (or compounder of prescriptions) the very great danger to which some of the **FINEST HORSES** in the world are constantly exposed, by the ignorance and obstinacy of the parties to whose care they are too generally entrusted; every **STABLE-BOY**, aping the *groom* his superior, and the **GROOM** the *self-instructed* **FARRIER**, all have their heads and pockets stuffed with the quintessence of stupidity, collected from the various productions of antiquity, whose very **PRESCRIPTIONS** are in themselves so obsolete, that many of the articles included have been long since rejected as of no utility. But as variety must be obtained to effect the necessary purpose, the invention is instantly set at work to substitute new ingredients, for those long since abandoned as superfluous and unnecessary, in medicinal composition. These alterations and substitutes frequently form a most curious collection of contrarieties—*purgatives* and *restringents*; *cordials* and *coolers*, *mercurials*; *antimonials* and *diuretics*, are indiscriminately blended in one mass, as a specimen of these wonderful improvements in the **ART of FARRIERY**! And those who are most acquainted with this

#### 4. OBSERVATIONS.

practice wonder least how the DOG-KENNELS, in every part of the kingdom, are so amply furnished with HORSE-FLESH.

As an elucidation of this circumstance, and to corroborate the consistency of these observations, we need only advert to the treatment of the human species in the time of that luminary, the famous SYDENHAM, who was so much the celebrated favourite of his day, it was almost supposed he could do no wrong. It being then a common practice of his—to order boldly THIRTY ounces of blood to be taken from the arm of a man, without fear of *murder* or danger of *punishment*. And this is not altogether likely to create wonder, when we recollect there is *no law* existing to hang a physician for error in judgment. *Time* and *experience* have fixed the standard, according to cases, circumstances, and exigencies, from SIX ounces to SIXTEEN, which is nearly one half the original evacuation; so that we find by this change of quantity, the *modern human body* is supposed to contain no more than one half the proportion of blood that ran in the veins of the HEROES of ANTIQUITY, unless the whole system is entirely changed, as observed by



Gregory, in the Mock Doctor, who says  
“ The heart was formerly on the *left* side, but  
“ the COLLEGE have altered all that, and  
“ placed it on the *right*.”

To produce a case exactly similar in the  
World of FARRIERY, let us take a survey  
of the medical abilities of GIBSON, who cer-  
tainly wrote much better on the subject than  
BRACKEN ; where we shall find ordered, in a  
single prescription for a purging ball, *two ounces*  
*of alses*, with the addition of the other usual  
purging articles, though modern practice and  
experience fix the established proportion at  
exactly *half*, or at most *five eighths*, to the  
strongest horses, with the cathartic aids before  
mentioned. He also most courageously re-  
commends *half an ounce of calomel*, or *sublimed*  
*mercury*, in a single ball ; and speaks of the  
internal administration of most powerful poi-  
sons, *corrosive sublimate*, or *red precipitate*, as  
a matter of course : the proportion for a dose  
being curiously ascertained by the sublime  
mensuration of a “ silver two-pence,” as if a  
premium had been absolutely provided by *an*  
*act of parliament* for the general extirpation of  
the breed of HORSES, *as destructive to the*  
B 3 *interests*

## 6 OBSERVATIONS,

*interests of society.* Though, after prescribing these dreadful remedies, he *modestly* confesses “ in the administration there is *great danger* ; “ and, unless a horse is very strong, he may not “ be able to recover from the experiment.”

This is *doctrine* (and *doctrine*) with a witness ! These are the kinds of *experiments*, and this the kind of language that has for two centuries been held forth in almost every tract upon the subject : and, under these absurd, ridiculous, dangerous, and contemptible burlesques upon the application of medicine, will any man, who wishes well to the cause of *humanity*, say some *rational* system of rectification and improvement is not necessary, to rescue from the danger of perpetual experiments the noblest and most valuable quadruped in the creation !

The palpable necessity for such improvement having been universally admitted *previous* to the first edition of this work, it is *since* rendered more *absolutely needful* by the recent resurrection of *ancient practice*, modernised in a different form and periodical appearance \*. It has

\* A System of Farriery, in weekly numbers.

evidently undergone a kind of regeneration by its *new birth*, and is now become the child of *adoption*; sanctioned with the authority of a nominal voucher for the *consistency* of its imperfections, and the *propriety* of introducing the most incredible accumulation of prescriptive absurdities that ever disgraced a medical work offered to public inspection for the purpose of information. And what renders the imposition of still greater magnitude, is the very confidential manner of proclaiming to the world what every professor of medicine will instantaneously refuse his assent to the belief of, viz. that it is the joint production of an operative farrier, physicians, anatomists, and professors of surgery.

The task of criticism must at all times be an unpleasant performance, but much more particularly upon the present occasion, where it will be absolutely impossible for me to discharge my obligation to an indulgent public (with the necessary precision and impartiality) without encountering, by this decision, the pique or resentment of all parties interested in the fate of such publication, or its effects upon the multitude. However, the predicament I now  
 B 4 stand

stand in compels me to proceed to a thorough explanation, feeling myself pledged by a public promise not only to *investigate, make clear, and endeavour to explode*, the cruelties of ancient practice, but to point out the equal danger of *modern composition* even in its infancy; more particularly when ushered into the world by such high sounding authority as may give it *temporary* weight with unthinking injudicious readers, or experimental adventurers.

Previous to farther animadversion upon the elaborate periodical work in question, I shall, without the least intentional gratification of my own vanity, offer to the present reader one congratulatory fact beyond the power of *sophistry* to confute, or *criticism* to condemn. Amidst the paltry productions that have been obtruded upon the public under various titles, (those servile imitations or wretched mutilations of what had gone before) it is a most flattering circumstance to the author, and no indifferent consolation to the publisher, that *this work* will ever support itself upon the basis of its *own origin*. The great success and rapid circulation of the former editions have totally exculpated

exculpated every page from the least accusation of plagiarism, as it will be found to differ very materially from *other* publications upon the *same* subject, and the *exact reverse* of those in circulation. The studious enquirer will be most seriously disappointed if he expects to find in *these pages* a literal imitation and repetition of GIBSON'S anatomical structure, with the *identical plates* and corresponding references, or a dangerous combination of destructive articles *heterogeneously* blended and *cruelly* applied.

Saying thus much to corroborate the intent and meaning of our own work, it becomes immediately applicable to repeat our assertions respecting the danger of others; particularly in those truly *wonderful* prescriptive parts, so *modestly* affirmed to be the conjunctive efforts of *learned physicians, studious anatomists, and proficient in surgery*. That the practical knowledge of these *nominal* physicians "in buckram" has far exceeded every thing prescribed before their time, the magnitude and almost unlimited number of dangerous articles, introduced in their recipes, will sufficiently demonstrate to those who are so truly unfortunate as to have the perusal fall to their lot; but more particularly

larly those who still *more unfortunately* fall into the practice.

It is impossible (without taking too much time from the reader, or too much room in the work) to indulge a most predominant wish of enlarging upon the unaccountable absurdities and astonishing proofs of ignorance in the properties, power, and use of medicine, that might be justly quoted from this *monstrous prodigy* of *modern* instruction, to rescue from the rapacity of literary imposition that class of mankind who so frequently become the dupes of specious plausibility. As it would afford but little information or amusement to enumerate the follies or copy the illiterate prescriptions to justify my own observations, or court a coincidence from others, I shall content myself with one assurance to the public, that having taken the opinions of some of the faculty, (upon the recipes already promulgated in the trifling part of the production hitherto gone forth) they perfectly agree with me—there are a *variety* introduced that would in a very few hours *inevitably relieve* the subject from *every possibility* of future pain, *suffering*, or *disquietude*.

I shall

I shall only convey an oblique hint at those catchpenny shifts or abridgments, from the authors before spoken of, published under the titles of “Ten Minutes Advice;” “The Pocket Farrier,” &c. &c. and proceed to a few observations upon the *wonderful discoveries, prolix descriptions, tedious digressions, and astonishing tales*, of HENRY BRACKEN (medicinæ doctor), who, to his diploma, which he boasts of in his Preface, adds the strangest complication of language, for a medical author and physician, that ever disgraced a candidate for critical dissection. However bad the compliment may be to my own understanding, or largely it may tend to display my want of taste, I can neither condescend to imitate him in the sublimity of his style or the fertility of his medical invention: nor shall I presume to copy so great an *original*, by introducing “A Tale of a Tub” in every page, foreign to the matter in question, merely for the purpose of swelling this work to a size that may contribute to its disgrace; reserving to myself one consolation—if it does not become entitled to approbation for its *utility*, neither *pique* or *prejudice* shall have just cause to condemn it for its prolixity.

It

It has been hitherto customary, in the introductory part of tracts upon this subject, to enlarge upon the shape, make, figure, and qualifications, of a horse for the turf, field, road, &c. And all this might be very applicable and proper, *even now*, could we for a moment suppose that a sportsman does not know a HORSE from an ASS, or that a gentleman attends a repository, fair, market, or sale, with a book in his hand or his pocket, by way of remembrancer. Exclusive of this consideration, in the present stage of refinement, we are become so truly enlightened, that every juvenile devotee to *Diana*, who has just escaped from the tender anxiety of his *mamma* and the successful attention of his *tutor*, talks loudly and confidently of the “*full eye*,” “*small ear*,” “*deep chest*,” “*close fillet*,” “*short back*,” “*strong pastern*,” “*sound hoof*,” &c. In short, all those qualifications that are at present universally understood, and in constant request, by the best judges, are very hard to obtain; and it is by no means an uncommon thing to observe a horse with a very few good points, in the possession of those we are apt to believe (from a combination of circumstances) have  
it



it in their power to be much better accommodated.

Since the original publication of this work, objections having been started to the above mode of explanation, as not only too concise for the magnitude of the subject, but equally inadequate to the expectation of the young and inexperienced, who became inquirers more from the motive of information than amusement; I shall endeavour to obviate that disappointment, by entering more minutely into the *descriptive* qualifications, and clearly point out the advantages arising from circumspection to juvenile adventurers in the equestrian field of fortune. Exclusive of the before-mentioned class of enlightened pupils, who have improved their theoretic knowledge by practical experience and disposition upon the well-worn hacks of *Eton, Oxford, and Cambridge*, (enabling themselves to animadvert upon splents, spavins, windgalls, and strains), it must be confessed there are innumerable inferiors who having unluckily no experimental knowledge to improve upon, no advantage to avail themselves of but literary instruction, or dear-bought experience, it is undoubtedly just such advice should

## 14. OBSERVATIONS.

should be inculcated as may tend to prevent their becoming dupes to the various traps of imposition *eternally open* to plunder the unwary.

In respect then to the absolute *shape; make; and figure* of a horse, such rules shall be laid down for the selection, or choice in purchase, as it will be indispensibly necessary to adhere to, if *speed, strength, or beauty*, (commonly termed fashion) are the objects of consideration; though it may be justly believed an almost entire impossibility to procure a horse with all those points and advantages the eye of *caution* and *experience* constantly has in view. In such survey, the primary and predominant consideration (if found) is the state of age, but much more particularly if required for immediate use, at least that kind of use termed constant work; as no horse *whatever* can be supposed adequate to such task at an earlier age than rising six years.

To the very necessary *conviction* of age should follow a most minute and attentive inspection, or rather strict examination, of those points constituting the distinction between *imperfections,*

*tions, blemishes, and defects*; in general doubtfully implied, and not always perfectly understood, by the common assurance of “Sound wind and limb.” To ascertain the veracity of which *technical phraseology* much nicety of discrimination appertains.

Amongst sportsmen (who are justly entitled to the appellation of gentlemen, and possess a high and proper sense of honour and the principles of equity) the general acceptation of the word “*sound*” has ever been, and still is, intended to convey an *honourable, unequivocal* assurance of the perfect state of both the frame and bodily health of the subject, without exception or ambiguity. It is meant to imply the total absence of blemishes as well as defects, (unless particularly pointed out and explained); and is really intended to confirm a *bona fide* declaration of the horse’s being (at the time) free from *every imperfection*, labouring under no impediment to *fight or action*. This is the established intent and meaning of the word “*sound*” amongst gentlemen and sportsmen; its explication and various uses, for the convenient purposes and impositions of *grooms, dealers, black-legs, and jobbing itinerants*, are too perfectly understood

understood (by those who have run the gauntlet of experience and deception) to require further animadversion.

However, as you can but very seldom possess the good fortune to purchase of a *gentleman*, it will prove no contemptible practice to adopt the sage old maxim, and “deal with an *honest* “*man* as you would with a *rogue*.” this precaution may prevent a *probable* repentance, and palpably urges the necessity of putting your own judgment and circumspection in competition with the integrity of your opponent, however he may be favoured by *fortune*, or sanctioned by *situation*.

The prudent or experienced purchaser consequently commences his task of inspection with *care*, *caution*, and *circumspection*, first accurately ascertaining the *shape*, *make*, *bone*, and *strength*; collecting sufficient information from such observation, whether his qualifications are properly adapted to the purposes of acquisition. He sees him go all his paces, and forms his own opinion upon each; or perhaps more judiciously avoids every possibility of *trick* or *deception*, by riding the horse and thoroughly investigating

tigating his properties; thereby escaping bad action, lameness, starting, restiveness, and other incidental imperfections. He then most attentively proceeds to the more minute and necessary examination of the state of the *eyes, wind, knees, splents, spavins, windgalls, ringbones, quittors, cracks* or *grease*: descending lastly to the *feet*, thereby avoiding *corns, running thrush, canker*, and additional defects that young and inexperienced purchasers frequently suppose unworthy consideration or reflection, sacrificing the whole at the shrine of *figure* and *fashion*.

In the choice and purchase of a horse, selected for *whatever* purpose, it is an invariable and established custom with the best judges to come as near the following points and advantages as circumstances will permit, thereby gaining *in each* an additional step to the summit of perfection. For the desired or intended height, size, and figure, being ascertained and procured, all other necessary points so strictly correspond (in a certain degree of uniformity) that what gives *speed* and *strength* to a large horse, will proportionably contribute similar advantages to a smaller.

To contribute that uniformity, the head and ears should *both* be small and short, with a large full eye and open extended nostril; a long well proportioned neck, rising gradually upon the withers, forming what is generally termed “a fine forehead,” having great depth from thence to the point of the breast, which being wide, affords ample proof of *strength*, as does the necessary declination of the shoulder (or blade-bone) to the point of the withers another of *speed*. This combination forms a well made horse before, which is continued to the remaining parts of the frame, by the back’s being short and even, not *sinking* at all in the loins, or *rising* higher *behind*, upon what is termed “the *crupper-bone*; the carcase should be round, and well ribbed up to the hip-bones, (forming as trifling a hollowness or concavity in the flank as possible) these being by no means pointedly prominent. The legs should not be too long for the height of the horse, but short in the joints, and particularly so upon the pasterns.

These instructions respecting *shape, make, and figure*, will (with very few exceptions) prove leading traits to the necessary and desirable qualifications.

fications. To ascertain the whole of which, no invariable rules can be laid down as an *infallible* guide to certain perfection ; for there are many instances of very well shaped horses having proved indifferent goers, and others so entirely cross made as to possess hardly a good point, being equal in action to some of the finest figures in the kingdom. Rules or instructions thus liable to exception, (though they are established by custom, and in a great degree justified by experience, have yet some claim to contribution from the *personal observation* and *deliberate judgment* of the purchaser ; for surely it can require no extraordinary portion of *genius*, or extent of penetration, to distinguish between “a good goer” and a bad one : if so, the adventurers may as probably stand in need of an instructor to point out the difference between a *horse* and a *mare*.

Notwithstanding these instructions may contribute to form the judgment of a juvenile and inexperienced purchaser, yet he should never attempt to obtain a high priced horse from the hammer of a modern repository, without the advantage of an assistant perfectly adequate to the arduous task of discrimination.

Let it be remembered, at such *mart* of *integrity*, a horse is seldom, if ever, displayed in a state of nature; he is thrown into a variety of alluring attitudes, and a profusion of *false-fire*, by the powerful intermediation of *art* — that predominant incentive the *whip* before, and the aggravating stimulus of the *ginger* behind, (better understood by the application of “*fig-ging*”) giving to the horse all the appearance of spirit, (*in fact fear*) that the injudicious spectator is too often imprudently induced to believe the spontaneous effort of nature.

During the superficial survey, in those few minutes allowed for inspection and purchase, much satisfactory investigation cannot be obtained; for, in the general hurry and confusion of “*shewing out*,” the short turns and irregular action of the horse, the political and occasional smacks of the whip, the effect of emulation in the bidders, the loquacity of the orator, and the fascinating flourish of the hammer, the qualifications of the object is frequently forgotten, and every idea of perfection buried in the spirit of personal opposition.

Such



Such a combination of circumstances, tending so much to perplex and confuse, urges the necessity of care, caution, and circumspection. The eyes of *Argus* would hardly prove too numerous upon the occasion, a bridle being as necessary upon the tongue as a padlock upon the pocket; for, amidst the great variety of professional manœuvres in the *art of horse-dealing*, a purchaser must be in possession of a great share of *good fortune* or *sound judgment* to elude the ill effects of deception and imposition; a circumstance so universally admitted that government considered a substantial *tax* no improper compliment to their *iniquities*.

The institution was undoubtedly *originally* good, and for some years proved of the greatest public utility: whether, like many other of the most valuable institutions, it has been prostituted to the *worst of purposes*, remains with the opinion of every reader to decide. For my own part, however highly they may be extolled, or extensively puffed, by the parties interested in their success, I must confess, I am never included within their walls but I conceive myself in the very centre of Chesterfield's "*sink of iniquity*," and consider a *sound* horse

from a repository equally rare with a capital prize in the lottery.

In the midst of these very necessary considerations, it must be remembered, such hebdominal sales are not without their acknowledged conveniences; for although they are by no means calculated to *buy at*, they are most admirably adapted for *selling*. Here you may, in compliance with *custom* and the full force of *fashion*, get rid of the *blind, lame, restive, broken-winded, splented, spavined, or glandered* horses, without remorse or fear of punishment. The seller, whether a *nominal* gentleman without *honour*, or the *dealer* without *principle*, is entitled to every degree of *duplicity* he can bring into practice; they lay *equal* claim to the privilege of obliquely puffing their *own horses* (as standers-by praising their unequalled qualifications, and bidding for them) with an affected enthusiasm, thereby inducing the unwary to proceed in the purchase very much beyond the intrinsic value. The credulous *dupe* becomes in a short time convinced of the *bubble*, and is in possession of no consolation but the law of retaliation, by a repetition of transfer; necessity compels him to sell at the *same* or a *similar* market

market with an equal degree of deception, in which he now becomes initiated; and the perpetual routine of *crippled hospital* horses is thus supported by the very predominant plea of self-preservation.

These facts being well established, and amongst the experienced universally known, it is generally admitted that the most probable method of acquiring a *young, sound, perfect* horse, must be by purchasing in the country, before they have made a “trading voyage” to the *metropolis*; where, with the joint effects of *indifferent riders, indolent grooms or ostlers, hot stables, irregular feeds*, and the plentiful hay and water system that frequently constitutes livery subsistence, we soon perceive fluctuating humours, depraved appetite, inflamed eyes, swelled legs, cracked heels, tender feet, and a multiplicity of those *stable comforts* that instantly strike the eye of an experimental observer, when taking an occasional survey of the public stables in London; where they conceive they execute every degree of equestrian duty in the highest perfection, though a lad, of even the *second class*, from a common hunting-stable in

the country would instantly demonstrate the contrary.

My very worthy and *learned* predecessor BRACKEN, in his digressions for the PUBLIC GOOD, has introduced stories and similes of all discriptions and denominations, from the funeral of his “favourite mare with ale and “rosemary,” to the “comparifon between a “*rider of sixteen stone* and a *Scotchman’s pack;*” strictly enjoining every man (who had not a rational idea of his own corpulence or circumference) to be careful in adapting the strength of his horse to his own weight; with many other observations of equal sagacity and penetration. But, as I indulge a much higher opinion of the understandings of those to whose serious inspection this treatise will become subject, I shall not irritate the feelings of any sportsman, who unluckily rides a great weight, by reminding him what kind of horse is most likely to reconcile the inconvenience, but naturally conclude every reader will exert his judgment for the procurement of such purchase as will prove most likely to become adequate to the purposes for which he is intended.

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He also (from an universality of genius, no doubt,) animadvert upon the art of riding and qualifications of horsemen, their tempers, dispositions, agility, alacrity, fear, fortitude, “*wry faces, and losing of leather;*” descants largely upon the apparatus of bits, bridles, saddles, &c. entering into the very minutiae of the riding-school, which now would be not only degrading the experimental knowledge of every sportsman in the kingdom, but absolutely *smuggling* a subject the acknowledged property of *Angelo, Astley, Hughes, and Jones*.

In respect to the anatomical structure of a horse, nothing can be added upon that subject to excite attention; it has been already so minutely investigated and accurately explained by GIBSON and SNAPE, that the least room for addition or enlargement is not left for any succeeding writer who does not (as before observed) admit the capacities of the solids to be more enlarged, the fluids encreased, or the heart changed from one side to the other, since the days of those authors, who so well fulfilled to the public the tasks they had undertaken. And as the operative part of FARRIERY is not intended to come within the purpose of  
our

our present plan, but is entirely submitted to those whose immediate profession it is to be most clearly informed of; to the excellent anatomical works of the above writers I refer them for a completion of their studies, and come to such a system as it is absolutely necessary for every sportsman to understand, that he may be not only enabled to prescribe for his own horses upon emergencies, but to judge of the propriety of their treatment when, by the severity of circumstances, submitted to the superintendence of others.

Much multifarious matter has constantly been introduced relative to the age of a horse by his mouth; where (after all the observations upon the subject) it becomes an acknowledged fact by every writer, each sign is doubtful, and liable to deception in the various arts and designs of the dealers, who, by engraving and burning artificial marks in some teeth, and totally extracting (or beating out) others, render the horse of any *seeming* age most applicable to their purpose. And these faults cannot be easily discovered but by grooms or judges who are in the constant habit and practice of making such remarks and observations.

Nor

Nor is there any matter in a horse requiring a nicer discrimination in judgment, than to ascertain to a certainty the age of a horse by his teeth only, having absolutely seen two men of abilities and experience on the opposite sides of a horse's mouth, at the same time declare him of different ages; when, by exchanging sides, each changed his opinion, and the horse proved, by the common rule, to be coming a year older on one side than the other. These doubts in respect to the certainty of age being admitted, one fixed rule is incontrovertible—that, after the mark (which is the general guide) is obliterated, the longer the teeth are, and the narrower the under jaw is towards its extremity, the more the horse is advanced in years.

But, as the age of the horse is so distinctly abstracted from, and unconnected with, the description of disease which becomes more immediately the subject of discussion, I shall leave the former to the subtle decision of the stable disputants, to whose province it may be said to belong, and whom it more materially concerns.

There

There can be but little doubt that whoever becomes a purchaser, at the present high price of *sound, fresh*, and fashionable horses, will proportion the price to such deficiencies as times and circumstances render unavoidable; and make pecuniary allowances for *advanced age, broken wind, bad eyes, spavin, splents*, and a long detail of incidental imperfections. But as such necessary circumspection does not always take place with the young and inexperienced purchaser, a concise hint not to acquire too many infirmities at a high price, merely to gratify a little personal ostentation in an external display of BLOOD and FASHION, cannot be amiss. More particularly when we so frequently see an accidental fall, and consequent laceration upon the knees, prove the transient value of what was (a few minutes before) the object of admiration and possession with every beholder, now become blown upon, and of no greater estimation than to be unrelentingly torn to pieces, by that most *merciful* and *humane* invention,

#### A MAIL COACH OF PALMERIAN MEMORY.

Previous to the treatment of diseases, it cannot be inapplicable to point out such things

as



as are strictly necessary, and absolutely conducive to the preservation of health, though perhaps not at all times properly attended to. For instance, no subject is more highly entitled to a distinct and separate investigation than the article of

## F E E D I N G,

as a peculiar attention to the qualities and quantities of aliment is particularly necessary to secure the horse in a state of health and condition, fit for the immediate purpose to which he may be destined. To produce him at all times ready for the *turf, field, or road*, becomes necessarily the complete style of *cleanliness, dressing, exercise*, and various minutiae, that constitute the present perfect state of stable discipline; which never arose to so high a pitch of excellence, and can have originated only in a laudable emulation, that seems (by a kind of sympathetic inspiration or enthusiasm) to have taken possession of every groom in stables of repute, and renders unnecessary the most trifling observations upon this ceremony,

where the horses are thought worthy the attention of MASTER OR MAN.

And it is equally so in respect to the articles of *food*. Horses are as often out of condition (in inferior stables) from the effect of improper food as from natural diseases. Respecting the most proper food to a horse in health, no diversity of opinions can be supported unless by FOOLS OR MADMEN.

Experience, that inevitable touchstone of *truth*, demonstrates, to an indisputable certainty, the acknowledged preference of *spring-grass* in the field; or *sweet oats*, *sound beans*, and *fragrant hay*, in the stable, to every other article that imagination can invent or novelty supply.

And here it becomes unavoidably necessary to introduce a circumstance that constantly occurs in the course of observation; at least to those who, entering a multiplicity of stables, wish to enlarge their information or exercise their judgment. How very common is it to find a consultation held upon the appearance of a favourite horse, who, to the surprise of  
the

the parties, loses flesh, becomes dull and heavy in the stable, languid in action, sickly in coat, and foul in excrement, doomed to a course of *purgatives*, then *diuretics*; and, lastly, a tedious administration of *alteratives*, as sickly and unsound! And all for what?—because the poor emaciated animal, being destitute of the powers of speech, could not better inform his persecutors, than by his *emphatical* and misinterpreted looks, that his hay was *musty*, and consequently laying the foundation of many disorders. For, being thus deprived of more than half his support, the trifling quantity he did take (being against the disposition of *nature* and *appetite*) afforded little nutriment; nor of course could, when fourteen pounds of hay only had perhaps passed the intestinal canal in four days, instead of fifty-six; the accustomed and proper proportion being rated at fourteen pounds for twenty-four hours, where horses are regularly corn-fed. To bring this defect in the quality and quantity of this part of the *aliment* home to every comprehension, let any reader conceive the idea (or try the experiment) of sitting down with an excellent appetite (after a most excellent chase) to a beef steak nearly approaching *putrefaction*, with no sauce but

*bunger,*

*bunger*, no alternative but *necessity*, and I believe I may venture to assert—the feelings of the MAN and the BEAST will not be dissimilar on the occasion.

These circumstances attending both hay and corn I have repeatedly been witness to; and do affirm, in opposition to any opinion that may be formed against me, most horses will shew, in less than a fortnight, both in their *flesh, coat, and spirits*, when hay or corn do not yield or convey their proper *nutriment*, if given in fair and just proportions. I consequently avail myself of this fact, to urge the necessity of *sound corn, sweet hay, soft water, regular feeds*, and *as regular exercise*, if a horse is desired or expected to appear in good

## C O N D I T I O N.

The word CONDITION, in the phraseology of the *turf*, is supposed to imply a horse's being in such a state of perfection, and in strength and power so much above the purpose he is destined to, that he displays it in figure and appearance. *Fine in coat, firm*  
in

*in flesh, bigb in spirits, and fresh upon his legs.* To be in this desirable state, if a young horse, and stranger to hard work, may be readily expected, and naturally concluded; but, on the contrary, where a horse has been subject to a proportion of duty, either on the turf, field, or road, a great degree of good fortune must have attended him through all his journies, not to have suffered from some one of the many dangers to which he has been so repeatedly exposed. By way therefore of introducing directions for getting a horse into condition, it will be most proper to fix the criterion of commencement at that season when a hunter, having had what is called a summer's run, is taken up with an intent to get him into proper condition for the field. The horse being taken up, if he is free from lameness, and there is no blemish, infirmity, or any other obstacle, to forbid such proceedings, put him first upon a very moderate proportion of hay and corn, and increase it gradually, according to the size and constitution. At the expiration of three or four days, when the hard food may naturally be supposed to have dislodged the grass, and supplied its place, a proportion of blood may be taken away, according to the

D size,

size, state, strength, and temperament of the horse, with due attention to the flesh he may have gained, or the impurities he may have imbibed with his pasture.

And here let me particularly caution the operator and the owner against that *slovenly, infernal, and contemptible* (not to add dangerous) practice of suffering the blood to fall indiscriminately, in respect to quantity and quality, upon the *ground* or *dunghill*. This self-sufficient manner of

## B L E E D I N G

the farrier always considers a striking proof of his consequence, and a never failing mark of his infallibility ; but it never can be too much discouraged, and in fact ought by no means to be countenanced, or indeed, permitted. If no particular plethora or fulness appears, to render large evacuations necessary, *three pints* will prove sufficient for a slender or delicate subject ; *two quarts* for the more advanced in strength or size ; but from the very large and strong, or remarkably foul horses, may

may be safely drawn full *five pints*. However, these directions should be carefully made by measure, to avoid the inconvenience and danger of too much relaxing the whole system; an impropriety in conduct that may not be so easily remedied as imagined. After this evacuation, let the same regular system of food, and gentle exercise, be continued for three clear days; and on the fourth prepare his body for the physic intended to be taken on the following morning, by giving him in the course of the day *three mashes* of equal parts of bran and oats, scalded with boiling water, and given at a proper degree of warmth, morning, noon, and night; putting on the necessary body-clothes, at the time of giving the first mash, to prevent the least hazard of cold from the relaxation of either body or pores. In the morning give one of the following *purging balls*, of which four different proportions are specified, and calculated for the horses before mentioned, in respect to strength, size, and constitution. But as we shall, in the course of the work, have occasion to introduce *references* to these CATHARTIC BALLS, under the heads of various diseases, it will be more convenient to distinguish them by *numbers*;

and, beginning with the weakest, the *reference* need only be made to the *number* in future, without a repetition of the ingredients.

## P U R G I N G B A L L.

( No. 1. )

**TAKE** of succotrine aloes one ounce ;

India rhubarb two drachms ;

Jalap and cream of tartar each one drachm ;

Ginger (in powder) two scruples ;

Essential oil of cloves and aniseed each twenty drops ;

Syrup of buckthorn a sufficient quantity to form the ball.

( No. 2. )

**TAKE** of succotrine aloes ten drachms ;

Of rhubarb, jalap, and ginger, each a drachm and a half, and syrup of buckthorn to make the ball.

(No.



## ( No. 3. )

TAKE Barbadoes aloes ten drachms ;

Jalap, and Castile soap, of each a drachm and a half ;

Diagrydium and ginger (in powder) each a drachm ;

Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball,

## ( No. 4. )

TAKE Barbadoes aloes an ounce and a half ;

Castile soap and jalap (in powder) of each two drachms ; ginger two scruples ;

Oil of aniseed forty drops ; of cloves twenty drops ;  
which form into a ball with syrup of roses or buck-  
thorn,

It is almost unnecessary to observe these BALLS are gradually increased in their *purgative qualities*, so as to be selected by the judgment of the reader, according to the state of strength and foulness the subject may be in ; and are so carefully guarded with warm aromatics, that the *operation* will (by a strict ad-

herence to the following RULES) in general proceed without the least alarm or danger. The BALL being given early in the morning, let it be washed down with a quart of water slightly warm, to take off the *nausea* as much as possible: leave in his rack a little sweet hay; and, in about three hours after, give a warm mash of *scalded bran*, containing one fourth of *oats*; upon which let the water be poured boiling hot; and stand a proper time to cool before it is put into the manger; as, by placing it there too hot, the fumes produce an antipathy which the horse does not easily get over; on the contrary, by touching the *mash*, and being burnt, will not be prevailed upon to attempt it in future. In case of a fixed aversion to *mashes*, a FEED of BRAN may be given at the stated periods, in which may be mixed one quart of GROUND OATMEAL. Water proportionally warm may be given him to the quantity of half a pail thrice in the day; and let his *mash* be repeated twice that day also, and early on the following morning, about which time the physic may be expected to begin its operation; but if the mash should be refused, a pail of warm water may be substituted; and in two hours after the horse  
(well

(well clothed) walked out for half an hour at least. Frequent supplies of warm water must be given, and two other mashes at their proper times; by no means omitting to take him out, and walk him gently twice or thrice in the course of the day. But, as purgatives administered to quadrupeds of this description cannot, from the great continuation of the intestinal canal, be expected to commence their operation in less than twenty-four hours, no hurrying or forcing methods must be taken to agitate the animal, or produce preternatural effects. So soon as the medicine begins to operate kindly and patiently, assist the work by the means before mentioned, at stated periods, or at such times as the appetite will permit them to be taken; continuing the mashes no longer than the physic is said to be set, or (in other words) the excrements become firm, and resume their original form.

Indeed the management of horses, during a course of physic, is at present so well understood, that little more need be added upon that subject; excepting the very necessary precaution to avoid *cold* during these operations, by a proper attention to the variations of the  
D 4 weather,

weather, and proportional clothing to the horse : for a cold caught at the season we speak of, and particularly during a course of physic, by fixing on the eyes or lungs, becomes an inveterate enemy to sport, and sometimes for the whole winter.

Six clear days should be allowed between the first and second dose, and the same space between the second and third. The entire course being regularly gone through, it will undoubtedly remove every degree of foulness resulting from full feeding at grass : and unless some palpable defect or latent obstacle indicates the contrary, he will (in little more than a fortnight) by his *flesh*, *coat*, and *spirits*, prove his ability to undertake any moderate chace in which his rider may be inclined to engage.

Though in the attainment of this state of perfection much depends upon the care and punctuality of the *groom* or *superintendent* ; the increase in *food*, and length (as well as strength) of *exercise*, should be very gradual from the setting of the last dose of physic ; as for instance, the horse should be regularly  
taken

taken out (if the weather permit) morning and evening, walking him half an hour before his water, and the same after ; which should be taken at a pond of soft water, in preference to a spring or running stream, if possible. His dressings should be as constant and regular as his exercise, which having been gradually lengthened for the first five or six days, he may then, after walking his usual time, have a moderate gallop (increasing it daily in length and speed, according to state and strength), before he is taken to water, walking him a proper time both before and after ; by no means adopting that most *ridiculous, contemptible, and pernicious* practice of *galloping* your horse *immediately after*, in servile subjection to the *illiterate* opinion of warming the water in the horse's belly ; a custom that has, through the ignorance or folly of servants, proved the absolute ruin of *many hundreds*, as will be clearly explained in the course of our future remarks, when we come to speak of broken-winded horses,

This mode of exercise must be constantly persevered in without relaxation ; his gallops night and morning should be increased, as well as his  
walking

walking exercise, which should by this time be lengthened to a full hour in the morning, and the same in the evening : not only during the time of promoting *condition*, but regularly continued to preserve him so ; if the owner is prompted by the least spark of emulation to appear in the field with a portion of that *eclat*, so very much the *ton* in every sporting county in the kingdom.

A proper respect to the abilities of BARTLET (who has very considerably improved and modernised the system of GIBSON and BRACKEN) induces me to give a literal copy of his preparation for “ a cooling purging drink ;” which, as he observes, “ is cooling, easy, and quick in  
 “ its operation, and greatly preferable, in all  
 “ inflammatory cases, to any other purge, as  
 “ it passes into the blood, and operates also by  
 “ urine.”

“ TAKE fenna two ounces ; infuse in a pint of boil-  
 “ ing water two hours, with three drachms of salt  
 “ of tartar ; pour off and dissolve in it four ounces of  
 “ Glauber salts, and two or three drachms of cream  
 “ of tartar.”

In

In inflammatory cases, where a cathartic is required to operate expeditiously ; or where a horse, by his rejecting powers, compels a ball to regurgitate, and it cannot be easily or properly passed, this drink may be admitted with propriety. But where a dose of physic is given merely as a purgative, without any indication of instantaneous necessity, I must, in justice, certainly recommend a ball in preference ; and for this reason, which I doubt not will prove perfectly consistent and satisfactory to every mind prepared for information.—The ball being given, is twenty-four hours in its gradual dissolution in the stomach and subsequent passage through the intestinal canal ; this, by his gentle and regular solution of the excrements, and lubrication of the parts, accounts most readily for the great ease any of the preceding balls work off with in general, without the least necessity for all that alarm and apprehension betrayed by so many, who prefer the chance of spoiling, or at least injuring, a capital horse, to seeing him under the temporary disquietude of a salutary course of physic.

The same ease is not to be expected in the operation of cathartic medicine conveyed in a  
liquid

liquid form ; for the joint qualities and force of the different ingredients being let loose at the same moment upon the internal coat of the stomach, without their stimulative powers being covered by aromatic or carminative ingredients, may (exclusive of the disagreeable sensation excited by their action upon the irritability of the stomach) be productive of spasms, or very severe griping pains, previous to the laxation of the hardened fæces in the intestines.

And where such pains are evidently predominant, (the proper time being more than expired), and there is no palpable sign of the physic's beginning to operate kindly, (which for the consolation of those unacquainted with the ceremony, is very seldom the case, particularly if the medicines are carefully and accurately prepared) so far from applauding the rashly recommended system of oiling "*a small hand*," and extracting the excrement from the fundament, I relinquish every expectation of finding "*a very small hand*" among farriers or grooms, and consequently disclaim the idea of encouraging any such practice, unless the *rectum* should be absolutely *plugged* up, so as

to



to prevent the passing of the pipe for the injection of a glyster, which should be given immediately with a large bag and pipe procured for the purpose, and repeated if necessary; making not the least doubt but this *lubrication* and *stimulus* will remove all obstructions, and afford every advantage that can be obtained from the favourite and long-standing practice of RAKING.

*To prepare the GLYSTER.*

TAKE of camomile flowers, sweet fennel, and coriander seeds bruised, of each one ounce: carraway seeds half an ounce; boil in two quarts of water till reduced to three pints; then strain and add for solution, while hot, of Epsom salts two ounces; and when nearly cool enough to administer, add of olive oil, and tincture of senna, commonly called Daffy's elixir, of each a quarter of a pint.

On the contrary, where the constitutional stamina does not prove so strong as imagined, the bowels in a weaker state than expected, or the medicines are found to irritate or purge more than is requisite or desired; and the physic does not set at the usual time, (the horse  
2 being

being consequently low, and off his appetite) let the following CORDIAL RESTRINGENT BALL be prepared and given immediately, repeating it in six or eight hours if necessary :

TAKE mithridate one ounce, Armenian bole, gum arabic, and prepared chalk (in fine powder), each half an ounce ; ginger (in powder) two drachms ; syrup of diacodium quantity sufficient to make a ball.

In three hours after let the following RESTRINGENT MASH be given, properly prepared, and kept occasionally stirring when over the fire, to prevent its burning : or this may be given, if necessary, without the ball, where the operation has not been so violent as to require both.

### RESTRINGENT MASH.

TAKE two pounds of rice, and half an ounce of cinnamon, bruised to a gross powder, and tied up loose in a piece of linen, (fine enough to prevent its passing through) ; boil in five quarts of water till reduced to the consistence of a mash : take out the cinnamon, and stir in a quart of ground oatmeal, and let it be placed in the manger when of a proper warmth. This may be repeated if necessary.

It cannot be inapplicable, after these prescriptions, to make a remark upon one observation of BARTLET, who seemed to think it unavoidably necessary to omit a designed part of his prescription at some times on account of the expence ; but I must confess, in all my experience, I have observed, and happy I am to acknowledge it to the honour of the sporting world at large, I never remember to have seen an instance of *penury*, or even hesitation in the article of expence, where a HORSE has been in pain or danger.

Having gone through the process universally established for getting horses into proper condition, it becomes necessary to proceed to the long list of accidents and diseases to which they are subject : and to introduce such medical system as (after a gradual succession from generation to generation, and from grandfire to grandson, in the old style) has at length acquired a degree of reformation and approbation, by the experimental rejection of the ancient botanical practice, *believed infallible* ; and the innumerable discoveries made in the world of medicine, by some of the most learned, judicious and enlightened characters in every part of the globe.

globe. And where the applications of modern invention are introduced, as much more adequate and applicable to the cause of complaint than the practice of former writers, the reason shall be constantly adduced, and supported by incontrovertible proof, why the present mode of treatment is entitled to every degree of preference and respect.

Without becoming a convert to the usual style of dividing and subdividing chapters, cases, and remedies, as has in general been the custom, introducing a large proportion of extraneous matter, merely by way of swelling the work (as a compliment to the pecuniary sensations of the publisher) I shall proceed, as in many other respects, the direct contrary way, and contract the plan as much as the consistency of circumstances will permit, by bringing into classes such accidents or diseases as bear a degree of affinity to each other, or come under a similar mode of treatment; and shall likewise (as much as possible) divest each case and explanation of *technical terms*, that every part may be the more universally comprehended.

CLASS

## C L A S S I.

SPLENTS, SPAVINS, WINDGALLS,  
LAMENESS, AND STRAINS.

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S P L E N T S;

Of which various accounts have been given without any thing satisfactory as to their origin or cure, except that “they are hard excrescences of different shapes and sizes on the shank bone, which often disappear of themselves; that “they are not dangerous but when situated near the joints, or appear very large upon the back part of the bone, and press against the back sinew.” All this is most certainly true, and generally believed to be so. Now let us remark what follows as directions for cure: “That the hair is to be shaved, the part to be rubbed with a  
E “ round

“ round stick *till it is almost raw*, and then  
 “ touched with *oil of origanum sublimite*,  
 “ *arsenic*, or *oil of vitriol*.” You are then told  
 “ these may produce an *ulcer*, a *rottenness* of  
 “ the *bone*, and, when cured, an *ugly scar* !”  
 Another says “ it is to be *soundly* rubbed  
 “ with the handle of a hammer, till it is so  
 “ much *bruised* as to bring on an *impoſthume*,  
 “ and conſequent ſuppuration or diſcharge of  
 “ matter !” And there can be no doubt but  
 this is rubbing it *ſoundly* with the *impoſthume*  
 for a *witneſs* !

Another tells you “ they are to be deſtroyed  
 “ with actual cauteries, or flat inſtruments of  
 “ iron, made red hot, and applied to the  
 “ ſplents, placing a piece of the rind of bacon  
 “ between, with the fat ſide outwards ; and,  
 “ having a ſecond iron heating alternately with  
 “ the firſt, the operation is to be repeated till  
 “ the ſplent is diſſolved.” To theſe, in caſe  
 of failure, they acknowledge the neceſſary aid  
 of “ *blistering, firing*,” &c. &c. Now, upon  
 a candid investigation of this accumulated  
 variety of opinions, we ſhall find them amount  
 to a verification of an obſervation not long  
 ſince made ; a paltry practice of ſwelling their  
 writings

writings at the expence of a reader's UNDERSTANDING as well as his PURSE. From circumstances the most predominant it absolutely appears that neither of the authors here quoted (notwithstanding the degree of estimation they may be held in) gave himself time, even for a moment, to consider the nature of the "excrecence" he means or wishes to describe, or the method of cure he may be naturally anxious to recommend.

And this the more powerfully appears, by the ridiculous attempt to destroy what they acknowledge an apparent ossification, or bony substance, seated upon a solid body, under the integuments, without a destruction of the integuments themselves, or a palpable injury to the component parts. But to bring this matter as near the truth as conjecture can justify, we will (by allowing an alternative,) take one or other for the fact, and draw what must appear a very natural and just conclusion; that is, whether the protuberance upon any part of the shank-bone, called a Splent, is an enlargement of the *periosteum* (or membrane covering the bone,) by an original rupture of the small vessels, and the extravasated fluid collected

E 2

lected and become indurated by time? or, a *callosity* originally formed upon the bone (as hinted by GIBSON) and becoming ossified, constitutes a bony substance, seeming a deformed part of the bone itself? In either case the only expectation of cure without anxiety and difficulty, is to be careful in observing such appearances, in their *earliest state*; and then *seeing* that frequent friction is used for a considerable time, twice every day, with the utmost force of the operator's hands, letting the part be well moistened, after each time of rubbing, with a proportion of the following *liniment*, leaving a pledget of tow wet with the same, bound on pretty firm with two yards of wide tape as a roller:

TAKE camphorated spirits of wine, and spirits of turpentine, of each four ounces, (a quarter of a pint.) Mix together.

Or,

Oil of origanum and spirits of turpentine, each half an ounce; camphorated spirits of wine, two ounces. —Mix.

When this plan has been persevered in for ten days or a fortnight, you will then be able  
to



to judge whether any perceptible advantage has been obtained from the force of these powerful repellents: if not, procure two ounces of the strongest mercurial ointment, and let the size of a hazle nut be well rubbed in upon the part affected, every night and morning, till the whole is consumed, using the roller each night, and taking it off in the morning. If this does not succeed, the best and most speedy method will be the immediate extirpation, by making a longitudinal incision ("without *bruising, hammering,*" &c.) through the integuments, dissecting and extracting the substance, completing the cure by taking up a couple of stitches, and treating it as a superficial wound: for which directions will be found under that head.

Notwithstanding the variety of opinions inculcated, and instructions laid down, to obtain a radical cure, it becomes a matter of doubt whether a little deliberation, previous to a rash execution, may not prove the most useful monitor of the two; that is, if the splent is not productive of lameness or disquietude, forming no inconvenience but an external appearance, whether it may not be

most advisable (at any rate most *prudent*) to let it remain in its pacific state of inactivity, rather than provoke it to a certain degree of active virulence, by the premature application of *blisters* or burning *caustics*. This reflection renders a former observation of greater weight, by adverting to the necessity of attacking them in their first state of appearance; when there is not the least doubt but the beforementioned early course of friction, with the mild dissolvents and repellents, will, if applied with care and punctuality, effect their total obliteration, without any perceptible *escbar*, or even the least loss of hair.

In respect to the auxiliaries of purging balls and diuretic drinks, slightly recommended by BARTLET, they form no part of my opinion; nor can I see the least reason for encountering that expence and trouble, as they cannot contribute in any degree to the removal of such substances, so remote from the centre of action, without injuring the general system to a greater degree than adequate to any proportional local relief that can be obtained. But to reduce this mysterious and technical explanation to a more simple and less complex  
idea,

idea, BARTLET's system may be adopted by those whose credulity can conceive that a course of purgatives and diuretics will contribute to the removal of *corns* or *warts* from the feet or hands of the human species.

## S P A V I N S.

Of these there are two kinds, very distinctly explained by most authors on the subject, and justly denominated a BLOOD and BONE SPAVIN. They both take their seats in nearly the same situation, and proceed from the following causes:—a BLOOD SPAVIN is a preternatural enlargement of the vein running on the inside the hough, and by the accumulated fluid forms a swelling that is pliant to the touch, submitting to pressure, becoming, in the course of time, productive of lameness. These appearances, were they attended to in their infancy, would (as observed in the preceding article) immediately submit to a frequent application of the following embrocation; rubbing in about two table spoonfuls twice every day, and keeping on (when in the

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stable)

stable) a pledget of tow, wet with the same, and confined with an elbow bandage; that is, the elbow part of an old waistcoat sleeve, opened and furnished with tape strings, at equal distances, to confine it upon the part affected.

TAKE of strong white wine vinegar four ounces;  
Camphorated spirits of wine three ounces; Ex-  
tract of saturn, commonly called Goulard's extract,  
one ounce.

Shake well together at every time of using.

In almost all cases of short standing the cause of complaint will submit to the power of these constant applications, that, by their action upon the solids so restore their elasticity and contract their circumference, as to repel the internal expanding fluid, and reduce the vein to its natural and original size. But where the defect is of long standing, and will not submit to this mode of treatment (the attempt having been sufficiently persevered in to ensure a fair probability of success,) the following had better be adopted.

TAKE of cantharides (in powder) one drachm;  
of olive oil two ounces. - Mix together.

And let this be gradually rubbed upon the part till absorbed by the seat of disease; then place over it a piece of flannel, and fasten on with the elbow-bandage as before described. In every eight-and-forty hours repeat this operation for a week (with the same proportion,) which has been attended with certain success in a multiplicity of cases, particularly in the metropolis of Ireland, where the most eminent practitioners (and very able there are) prefer it to our general method, which will be hereafter described. The great advantage resulting from this kind of blister is its immediate *stimulus* upon the parts, from which it derived a very speedy and plentiful discharge. The hair is raised up, and becomes what is termed *pen-feathered*, during the efflux of *serum*, in large proportion; which, subsiding, forms a kind of scurf, and may be all brought away in a few days by washing two or three times with soap and water; leaving no scar or trace of external application behind. And surely this method, justified by success and experience, must be preferable to the long-standing opinion of instrumental extirpation. As for instance, an incision is to be made through the skin, of  
sufficient

sufficient length to admit of the vein's being taken up, above and below the enlargement, by passing a crooked needle, furnished with a wax thread, underneath the vein, and making the ligatures at the parts most applicable to the extirpation intended. Should any inflammation or extreme swelling attend the parts after operation, warm fomentations and mild poultices must be made use of till they subside; after which the wound must be treated with digestives till the exuberance is sloughed off with the dressings, and the cicatrization, or skinning over, is accomplished, as in the case of abscesses and wounds, which will be treated of hereafter, when we come to that class.

Every degree of information, observation, and experimental investigation, defines a BONE SPAVIN to be exactly in a greater degree *behind* what a SPLENT is acknowledged to be *before*; formed nearly by the same means, fed nearly in the same manner, differing only in its critical situation; which from a contiguity to the joints, and ligamentary appendages, becomes so much the more an object of concern and attention, to avoid the certain  
impediment

impediment of lameness, which will in time inevitably ensue, if not prevented by reduction or extirpation. Much advice, and many directions, might here be obtruded of *blistering, firing, &c.* but they all come so immediately within the department of the OPERATIVE FARRIER, that further animadversion upon the subject will be totally foreign to the present intension—one observation and recommendation only excepted, viz. the necessity, *in operations*, of applying to practitioners of EMINENCE, whose judgment and execution will require no greater pecuniary compensation than those whose comparative abilities entitle them to no more than a mere *manual assistance* in furnishing the *apparatus*.

Previous to the dismissal of this article, I shall, for the accomodation of those who have never seen the publication, introduce the directions given by OSMER for the cure, as they literally appear in a tract of his committed to public inspection about five and twenty years ago; but, I believe I may venture to affirm, the elaborate operation procured very few converts to the practice.

“ First

“First clip the hair from the diseased part;  
“make several punctures on the same, through  
“the skin, with a sharp-pointed instrument:  
“make a longitudinal incision through the  
“skin, above the diseased part, about the  
“middle thereof: there introduce a cornet,  
“and dilate the skin with it as far as the  
“swelling reaches. Make another smaller  
“longitudinal incision, through the skin, be-  
“low the swelled part, directly opposite to  
“the wound above; in doing which, your  
“probe introduced at top will direct you.—  
“At the superior wound a caustic wrapped  
“up in a piece of lint is to be introduced,  
“and there left. The caustic dissolved is  
“carried off by the inferior wound, the  
“whole is directly to be covered with a warm  
“adhesive charge, and this is the whole of the  
“operation.—The caustic thus introduced  
“under the skin acts both ways, namely, on  
“the membrane underneath it, and the outer  
“tegument upon it. Thus the membrane,  
“outer tegument, and the charge, throw  
“themselves off together, and the diseased or  
“swelled part becomes fair and smooth. The  
“horse should be turned out, or kept in a  
“loose stable; and if the charge comes off  
“before



“before the wound is well, another should  
 “be immediately applied. But in spite of  
 “this, and all other methods used for this  
 “disorder, the horse will very frequently re-  
 “main full as lame as he was before, al-  
 “though the appearance of the disease is  
 “removed: the reason of which is, that the  
 “periosteum only is sometimes diseased; at  
 “other times the bone itself, and its cellular  
 “part. Yet I dare say there is not one far-  
 “rier in this kingdom but has an infallible  
 “and certain cure for these disorders.”

## WINDGALLS

ARE those prominences situate on both  
 sides the tendons (commonly called the back  
 sinews) above the fetlock joints on the fore-  
 legs, and not unfrequently upon the hind-legs  
 likewise. They are much larger on some  
 horses than others; and as they never appear  
 but upon those that have been constantly work-  
 ed too young, or proportionally overworked  
 when older, the cause will be the more readily  
 explained. For the tendons, by their per-  
 petual

petual action in constant labour, are so preternaturally extended, that some of the fine and delicate fibres of which the aggregate is composed, are, by such extension, actually ruptured or broken; from the mouths of which (minute as they are) ooze a very trifling portion of serum, or fluid, which, when extravasated, forms a gelatinous substance; and, combining itself with the included air, becomes, to external appearance, a kind of bladder between the tendon and integuments.

This being the exact system of principle and action that constitutes the cause, we proceed to the received notion (and our own opinion) of cure. Perhaps it may not be thought intrusive or inapplicable first to introduce a few words upon the subject of *prevention*, which will convey a much stronger proof of judgment in the *rider* than any subsequent advice that can possibly be offered on the part of the *FARRIER*; that is, no more than to recommend it to every man in the possession of a *good horse* to reflect a little upon the nature of his *own* superiority, that it is but *temporary*, and fleeting duration; to ruminate upon this circumstance in the career  
of

of his journey, and, feeling proportionally for the animal who bears his burthen, take no more of his strength in the field, or upon the road, than Nature intended or prudence may dictate.

For so beautiful a beast, constituting almost the central point of every good, (whether in pleasure or profit,) is certainly entitled to the utmost exertion of tenderness and humanity. And I will venture to affirm that no man, whose line of conduct is regulated by the principles of un sullied rectitude (or whose heart is open to those finer feelings that are even in *enjoyment* or *possession* a gratification,) ever did or ever will, after a *chase* or *journey*, indulge the calls of appetite till the partner of his pleasure, or the companion of his labour, has had every attention paid to his wants; which Nature has formed equally numerous and necessary with those of his (often unnatural) **RIDER.**

The frequent boasting of every unfeeling puppy who has rode thirty or forty miles in “so many hours and so many minutes, without baiting,” and other equestrian exploits, equally

equally wonderful, leaving the jaded object of his persecution to the affected diligence of idle grooms or drunken ostlers, not only accounts, in a variety of cases, for the appearance of *windgalls*, but for very many of the long list of diseases upon which we proceed to expatiate.

But from this digression we return to the cure, respecting which various opinions have been promulgated: “vinegar, or verjuice, and  
 “bandage; red wine lees; curriers’ shavings  
 “wetted with vinegar; blistering;” and, lastly,  
 “opened with a knife, a fleam, or a cobbler’s  
 “awl, and applying to the orifice a plaster of  
 “rosin, pitch, mastic, oil of bays, and white  
 “of egg.” I shall not add a single observation upon this most curious plaster, or wonderful arcanum of variety, but declare I have seen but very few instances of a perfect cure by any means. For whether a temporary completion has been obtained by *repellents*, *blistering*, *perforation*, or *rest*, a repetition of the ordinary work has soon produced a repetition of the defect. It is a consolation, however, to be informed that, in most horses, no lameness is produced by this appearance; and the only inconvenience

inconvenience it constitutes, is the disagreeable effect upon the eye (and indeed no *inconsiderable* one upon the *pocket*) when the horse comes to be sold. Windgalls are always very much enlarged after severe work, and again reduced by exercise and constant friction, or substantial rubbing down in the stable. And this circumstance is mentioned only to corroborate the *thesis* advanced to establish their origin.

Although a total eradication is but seldom experienced, it will be necessary to introduce the most approved and rational methods now in practice to obtain the desirable object of relief; and this can be effected only by *rarefaction*, *repulsion* and *bandage*: to promote the intentional operations of which,

TAKE oil of origanum and spirits of turpentine each half an ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine one ounce.—Mix well together:

And with a small portion of tow sufficiently moisten the tumours twice every day, leaving a pledget wet upon each; and immediately upon the centre fix a circular piece of lead  
F about

about the thickness and circumference of a half-crown-piece, binding it down with a roller of wide tape or linen, nearly or quite three yards long, and continue this method for a fortnight at least without omission; to which treatment (if not of too long standing) they may perhaps luckily submit; but should that not happen, and it is determined to attempt a cure by *perforation*, which operation is simple, and may be easily performed, the *incision* should be made with a strong abscess lancet, or bistory, and be performed in a single motion, by elevating or raising the instrument from the moment of penetration at the lower part of the swelling. The confined gelatinous matter, and cyst or bag, being perfectly extracted, prevent its becoming a wound by bringing the edges in contact; and dress with a pledget of lint or tow plentifully impregnated with *Traumatic*, (or *Friar's Balsam*), and bandage as before. In most cases the cicatrix will form, and the part heal without farther trouble: on the contrary, should any discharge of matter come on, or temporary inflammation ensue, dress as directed when we come to the treatment of WOUNDS.

In

In this case it will be but candid to point out the probable difficulties that may occur in such earnest attempt to obtain a radical extirpation ; for, notwithstanding the theoretical plausibility of this system, some inconveniences may possibly occur, and a satisfactory cure not ensue ; in such instance the remedy will most assuredly prove worse than the disease, and there can be no doubt but a prudent or compassionate man will much rather submit to a slight and almost insignificant inconvenience, than encounter by the attempt an evil of much greater magnitude.

Should, by any mismanagement in the operation or want of dexterity in the operator, the tendon be at all injured, lameness may be the inevitable consequence ; should the edges of the separated parts not display a tendency to union, but, on the contrary, become disposed to foulness, engendering *fungus*, it may degenerate to a *fistulous wound*, and be ultimately productive of infinite trouble and considerable expence. These attendant evils upon the experiment thus pointed out and taken into consideration, it will then become worthy the attention of the owner, whether the gentler

methods of cure before prescribed, with every possible portion of rest, (and when used, that use exceedingly moderate) will not prove the most advantageous and least dangerous system that can be pursued to effect the desired purpose.

### L A M E N E S S

Is a subject of so much universality, in fact an event arising from such a variety of causes, that it can never be thought inapplicable to enumerate the most probable from which such defect may be occasioned; thereby exciting a proper degree of investigation, ascertaining to a certainty by these means what very frequently, from want of *care, accuracy, and attention*, in the examination, is fixed erroneously on an improper part, or attributed to a wrong cause, as a mere matter of opinion, and consequently liable to the full force of injudicious or inconsistent treatment, with its long train of inconveniences.

Exclusive of the distinct kind of lameness proceeding from STRAINS, very different degrees may be occasioned by BLOWS or BRUISES  
upon



upon particular parts ; splents, spavins, wind-galls, thrush, ringbone, quittor, and a variety of additional causes that have *already*, or will be *hereafter* sufficiently explained under their different heads, and the most expeditious and efficacious method of cure pointed out. Lameness from *wounds* or injuries sustained by *shoeing*, come so immediately and properly under the inspection of the OPERATIVE FARRIER, that the least enlargement upon those subjects here might be very justly considered a matter of superfluity.

I shall therefore advert to that peculiar kind of lameness, produced in general by the inattention or *inhumanity* of the owner ; which, unattended to in its first state, (and the original cause continued) ensures to a *certainty* the annual destruction of many of the most serviceable horses in the kingdom. I allude, in this description, to such lameness, or rather universal debilitation of the legs and feet, as is the palpable effect of too constant labour without the least rest or intermission.

By incessant labour, I mean to be understood that *diurnal routine* of slavery through

the severities of every season, whether the *bad roads*, *frost* and *snow* of *winter*, or the *sultry heat*, *burning sands*, and *flinty roads* in *summer*, without a literal or relative consideration to the necessary, and indeed indispensable article of REST.

This perpetual drudgery a horse of spirit and bottom will (from the instinctive power of emulation) bear up against with almost incredible fortitude, particularly, if well supplied with a sufficiency of hay and corn ; but the repeated struggles and efforts of Nature being at length totally subdued by the extremity of fatigue, she is compelled to sink under the burthen of *inhuman persecution*, and a general inability or universal lameness becomes the inevitable consequence. The cause requires but very little animadversion for the purpose of either explanation or comprehension, as it may be with trifling attention and reflection *universally* understood ; for the *tendons*, by their almost perpetual extension and contraction (without the least portion of rest or inaction to restore their tone and elasticity) become so extremely relaxed, as to be rendered not only totally inadequate to the purposes

poses of motion and flexibility for which they were formed, but to produce a general tension upon all the surrounding parts. The legs become full, round, inflamed, and exceedingly painful; the horse alternately easing one leg or the other, when standing; which he is observed to do as little as possible, except when up for the purpose of feeding. This kind of lameness remains in general little attended to, till by a too constant repetition of the *cause*, the horse is so far disabled, that his daily labour becomes a work of misery; inadequate to the rapidity of motion or action required, he is rode or driven, till (sinking under the burthen), with *repeated falls, broken knees*, and a perseverance in *perpetual drudgery*; he is literally brought to “a stand still,” and rendered unfit for every purpose but the cart; where they are too frequently observed dying wretched martyrs to the horrid combination, or rather joint effect, of **HARD WORK, WHIPCORD, and POVERTY.**

To avert this calamity from so deservedly great and universal a favourite of mankind, is a duty incumbent upon every individual, who (prompted by his reflections, becomes con-

scious of the uncertainty of his own state, and the admirable services of this dependant,) wishes by a contribution of his endeavours, *however disproportionate*, to render himself of some utility to that society of which he constitutes a member. This consideration, blended with a perfect knowledge of the various, not to add almost inexpressible, sufferings of an animal so truly valuable, first roused me from the lethargy of oblivion, and prompted me to undertake a task of reformation, which (divested of every personal paltry idea of ambition) I should have been far happier to have seen from an abler hand, and more extensive abilities. Whatever might have been my original suspense, I am now justified in making confession, such portion of diffidence is in a great degree obliterated; the fostering hand of *public favour* having removed every doubt, rendered every consolation, and I must ever consider it one of the *most fortunate* occurrences of my life, that I have been enabled to mitigate the inconveniences of so general a want by the present publication,

From this sentimental digression, it will be thought prudent to advert to the case in question,

tion. It is therefore (even in the first instance) most earnestly recommended to let every horse have such proportion of rest from his daily employment or purposes as nature evidently stands in need of. That invariable rule will prove a practice highly advantageous to the proprietor, for he may be then experimentally convinced *prevention* is ever preferable to a *cure*, by precluding its necessity. But when such failure is perceived, every kind of work should be instantly set aside, if the least desire is indulged to restore the horse to his former state of *purity* or *perfection*. Such defect being attended to in proper time, moderate restraining applications, with a loose stable, if in *winter*, or a similar method, with turning out in *summer*, will, in a short time, generally restore the tone of the whole system affected by these means. In this class of medicine the following is entitled to the preference ;

TAKE rectified spirits of wine one pint ;  
Camphor two ounces ;  
Best vinegar half a pint.

Let the camphor be totally dissolved in the spirits before the vinegar is added, which  
being

being shaken well together, the parts affected must be *properly* and *patiently* bathed with a sufficient quantity every night and morning, till the whole is consumed, leaving that grand specific, REST, to crown this prelude with success.

This treatment may suffice when taken in its early state ;: but where the evil has been suffered to increase, and accumulate to a certain degree of lameness, attended with visible tension, inflammation, and extreme pain, as before described, let the above embrocation be used as there directed, it being a proper preparative to the following stimulative application, which will most certainly and infallibly effect the cure, if the instructions here laid down are strictly adhered to.

TAKE cantharides (in powder) three drachms ;

Oil of olives six ounces ;

Spirits of turpentine two ounces.

Mix the Spanish flies with the clive oil, then add the turpentine.

Half of this composition to be well rubbed into the fore-legs, and the other half in four-  
and-

and-twenty hours after, taking care to employ proper time in each operation ; rubbing in a small quantity at once, and continuing so to do by moderate friction, till the portion prescribed is absorbed by the seat of disease. After which process the halter must be shortened, or the parts covered, so as to prevent a probability of the effects being destroyed by the natural exertions of the horse, when finding himself disagreeably affected by the stimulus of the application. In three or four days after which, he should be turned out and left to enjoy the advantage of *gentle motion* for a length of time, adapted to the original cause and present severity of complaint. If a radical cure is anxiously desired or meant to be promoted, *prudence* will readily point out the consistency of a three months run, when a horse may be expected to come into hand perfectly sound, and as such (no symptoms appearing to indicate the contrary) may be got into proper condition, as directed under that head.

There are undoubtedly some, who, from different motives of *interest* or *impatience*, will not permit so long a respite from business or pleasure, let what may prove the consequence; notwithstanding

notwithstanding which I shall presume to introduce my farther advice, and recommend it most strenuously to such owners as have horses in this predicament, to extend their lenity for six weeks at least in the former case, and two months in the latter, lest, by an almost immediate relapse, they may have reason to repent their *folly* or *impatience*.

## S T R A I N S

ARE a part of this treatise to which such frequent application will be made for information, that they cannot be too accurately explained for the purpose of being well understood. And as I would much rather appeal to the taste and critical inquiries of the intelligent and enlightened reader than the caprice of the prejudiced vulgar, I shall be more anxious to obtain the approbation of the judicious, by a minute and explanatory investigation, than the sanction of the multitude by such a superficial account as would best come into compact with the standard of their comprehension.

Previous



Previous to farther animadversion, it becomes unavoidably necessary to combat the promulgated opinion of OSMER, who, in his remarks, ventures an assertion that “tendons are un-elastic bodies,” though in the very same page (and frequently after), he says, “the tendon is often elongated and strained.”—How this writer, or his readers, could reconcile such palpable absurdity and contradiction, I am at a loss to conceive; or how a tendon can be *elongated*, that has no *elasticity*, I am yet to learn. Nor does the introduction of this observation prove of greater utility than to corroborate the propriety of my former remarks upon the singularity of ANCIENT *practice* and MODERN *publications*.

To understand this subject clearly, it is unavoidably necessary to be informed not only of the causes from which such complaints proceed, but the parts that constitute the seat of disease itself. To acquire which let it be observed STRAINS are of two sorts, the one originating in the ligamentary parts, by which the different joints are preserved in contact; the other by a relaxation of the *muscles*, or *tendons*, whose purposes are the direct office of *motion*. Hence it is that the farrier and groom

groom are so frequently at a loss for their definition or explanation of any particular lameness, fixing it by *conjecture* upon *any* part (attributing it to *any* cause) but the right; and to this they are seldom directed by any mental information, possessing a very barren conception of the structure of parts, their purposes, or appropriations. The *muscles* or *tendons* (by farriers generally termed sinews) are strong elastic substances, composed of innumerable threads or fibres, possessing the properties of extension and contraction to a certain degree, beyond which their flexibility or elasticity cannot be extended without palpable injury, and certain lamenesses; for, by overstraining, their elastic quality (or affinity to catgut) is in a great measure destroyed in proportion to the injury sustained. To render this idea so clear that it cannot be misunderstood, let us suppose that a horse is going at his rate, and in so doing his toe covers a prominence, or the edge of one, where the heel has no support, it consequently extends the tendons beyond the distance afforded by nature, and instantly constitutes what is called a letting down of the back sinews; a circumstance that constantly happens upon the turf in running for a heat, and

and the horse is then said to have been "broken down."

This being supposed to have happened, the principal indication of cure will immediately strike every reader, so far as the gradual contraction and tone of the tendon is concerned; but the previous and instantaneous consideration will be to prevent, as much as possible, any consequent inflammation that may fall upon the part. To which end take away, so soon as convenient after the injury is sustained, a proportion of blood adequate to the state and strength of the subject, from a vein as contiguous to the part affected as may be consistent; and as your success will in a great degree depend upon the earliest applications, procure a quart of the best white wine vinegar, or very strong verjuice; and, after making it hot over the fire, add two ounces of the extract of Saturn; and with this foment the leg every night and morning, bandaging the part with a broad roller of a sufficient length, straining it pretty firm. After using this fomentation for two nights and mornings, begin with the following embrocation; and let two or three table spoonfuls be gently and gradually rubbed into the affected

affected part every night and morning, never omitting the use of the bandage tolerably firm.

**TAKE** of Barbadoes tar and spirits of turpentine each two ounces :

Opodeldoc four ounces.—Mix well together and keep stopped.

Previous to the use of this, should any degree of inflammation have been productive of swelling, a poultice may be applied twice a day, prepared with a proper quantity of oatmeal, rendered of a necessary consistence, with a strong decoction of wormwood and camomile (boiling a large handful of each in three pints of water and straining off;) this, by its emollient tendency, will contribute to the early reduction of the inflammation, without a farther relaxation of the tendinous parts: but the poultice must be immediately discontinued so soon as the swelling subsides, and the embrocation taken into use, as above directed. To this very constant application must be added *rest*: too much stress cannot be laid upon this most predominant and necessary article; from which the greater good must certainly result. To the want of *patience* and *mercy* only it is to be attributed that such an infinite number

of fine horses have been staked to the *burning cautery* that, with proper time in the field, would have been as certainly saved from the heat of the iron. And it is no less astonishing that, in the present age of equestrian sagacity and penetration, few can be found whose reason will sufficiently demonstrate the absolute necessity of *time* and *rest* to restore the tone of a relaxed muscle or tendon; a system of knowledge as clear as any mechanical principle that can be produced. When the horse has continued in the stable, under the treatment here mentioned, for a fortnight, he should, if in the winter, have his liberty in a large stable or barn where he will, by a natural attention to his own ease and safety, (unless hurried, driven, or disturbed, which should be prevented) sufficiently guard the injured part. On the contrary, if in the summer he should be turned into a pasture alone, and at a distance from other horses where he cannot, by their neighings, be excited to any exertion of spirit or extravagance that may occasion a relapse. But, in either case, if the enlargement of the part (that generally attends) does not subside, and the lameness bear visible marks of amendment, so soon as may reasonably be expected,

take the horse up and immediately apply the following *liquid blister*.

TAKE Spanish flies (in powder) two drachms; euphorbium and oil of origanum, each one drachm; corrosive sublimate (in powder) half a drachm; olive oil, four ounces.—Mix well together.

This must be deliberately and gradually rubbed over the whole part for at least half an hour, letting it be entirely absorbed by the seat of pain if possible; then cover it with a woollen bandage, and shorten the halter to prevent its being forced off: the ceremony and effect of this kind of application is before described under the article of *blood spavin*. At the expiration of three or four days he should be turned out, and not have even a halter upon him for six weeks, or two months, at least: and, however sound he may seem to be, his exercise, or work, should be very gentle; first boiling half a point of common sea-salt in a quart of the best and strongest vinegar that can be procured; this keep in a bottle in the stable, and let the necessary part, or parts, be well bathed with this *restringent* (and a very  
useful

useful one it will be found) for a quarter of an hour every night and morning, till double the quantity has been used. Under this practice I have seen the complete cure of many, without instantly recurring to a perpetual blemish by the present rage of FIRING, which is in general by much too frequently adopted; and no doubt upon most occasions hurried on by the pecuniary propensity and dictation of the interested operator, anxious to display his dexterity, or (as SCRUB says) “his newest flourish,” in the operation; which, when performed, and the horse is turned out (as must be,) if taken up *sound*, I shall ever attribute much more of the cure to that *grand specific*, REST, than to the effect of his *fire*. Nothing can be more truly contemptible than the ridiculous and absurd adoption of the ancient practice of cold charges; compounded of articles calculated in some degree to what they call *brace the parts*, it is true, but tending much more to form a kind of bandage by its firmness of adhesion, than medical relief by its power of penetration. And this will be more readily credited when a moment’s consideration is afforded to the fact: for what inherent restraining virtues can be possessed by

“*doe's hair, Armenian bole, rye flour or oatmeal,*” more than the properties of forming a cement (equal to a bandage) for keeping the parts in a firm and certain position, constituting a pompous prelude to the general idea of REST.

No one advocate for *cold charges*, or strengthening poultices, will be confident enough to declare they retain a sufficient portion of *stimulus* to penetrate the integuments; and, by their restraining or contracting powers, affect the tone or elasticity of the relaxed *tendon*. If so I will venture to hazard an opinion that what efficacy they may hold individually is intirely locked up in the mass of composition, and forms no other merit as a corroborant than a medical substitute for a bandage of rollers, &c. with this exception only, that it bears the appearance of business, or sagacity extraordinary, in the *farrier* and *grogn* employed in the elaborate preparation; who may prevent their loss of time, and prostitution of judgment, by methods much more eminently entitled to approbation, as founded upon principles of *reason*, and sanctioned by success. The same observations hold good in respect to poultices; they never should be  
applied



applied to strains but in cases of swelling and inflammation; as they can only contribute to the very reverse of the general intention, by relaxing the system they are employed to contract.

I can have no doubt (notwithstanding the dictatorial manner in which instructions were formerly conveyed, amounting almost to a degree of infallibility,) but the majority of readers who condescend to ruminate at all upon the subject, will instantly admit the great probability of receiving a greater portion of relief from active liquids, that, by their volatile and penetrative power, (assisted by frequent and industrious application) rush immediately into contact with the seat of pain, than from a compound of mere simples formed into elaborate poultices or cataplasms, that are prevented by the nature of the parts, (as the hair, and thickness of the skin,) from bringing so inactive a mass into effect, with parts requiring restringents of much greater power and penetration.

*Strains* in the ligamentary parts are in general occasioned by sudden jerks, short turns,

or sinking in deep ground, and forcible exertions to get extricated. These being situated at the junction of the bones, and in most cases so covered with the muscles and soft parts, that no great expectation of relief can be formed upon the efficacy of external application, when the seat of pain is unluckily so remote from the surface. But as these cases are very frequently productive of internal heat, exciting symptomatic inflammation, wash well with the following LOTION three or four times every day, adhering still closely to the article of *rest*, already repeatedly mentioned, and never can be sufficiently attended to; remembering also the great utility of bandage, where it can be conveniently applied:

**TAKE** best white wine vinegar one pint:

Extract of Saturn two ounces ;

Camphorated spirits of wine four ounces ;

And rain or pond water one pint.

Mix the extract with the camphorated spirits ; then add the vinegar, shaking well together ; and, lastly, add the water for frequent use.

To enumerate the variety of strains, and particularise the different symptoms constituting

ing each, would be an endless undertaking; such information or knowledge must always depend upon the judgment and attention of the operator; for the directions from books are always doubtful, and seldom decisive. Nor can it be believed that different horses *lamed* in *this* part, or *strained* in *that*, will all *step*, *balt*, or *retreat* in the same manner; if so, I may venture to affirm the idea will be frequently as *lame* as the horse!

To ascertain the seat of disease to a certainty, the judicious investigator will depend much on the EYE, more on the TOUCH; and, if assisted by observation and experience, he will very rarely err in the effect of his judgment: for, his minute examination being made with a necessary attention to concurring circumstances, he will seldom fail to convey a true state of the case upon almost every investigation.

Previous to the final dismissal of this article, it may not be inapplicable to introduce the *composition* of a BLISTER in great estimation, and of a different form, calculated for those who may be in some degree attached to the *former* mode of practice, and indulge their

doubts of the efficacy of the *liquid blister* before described.

**TAKE** of Venice turpentine and quicksilver each one ounce; rub together in a mortar till the quicksilver is no longer visible: then add

Of the ointment of marshmallows and yellow digestive, commonly called basilicon, each two ounces; and lastly,

Of cantharides (or Spanish flies,) three drachms;

Of corrosive mercury one drachm; both in fine powder, mixing the whole well together.

A portion of this to be carefully rubbed into every part upon which the blister is required to take effect, and the remainder to be laid on as thick as judgment may dictate or the case require, covering the whole with a piece of sheep or lamb-skin leather, having a margin spread with sticking *diachylon*; over this may be placed any other convenient bandage, making it firm, and using every precaution to prevent its being stripped off by the horse, so soon as its stimulating powder makes him sensible of his situation,

The operation of firing is so much the rage at present (without a relative consideration to his

his becoming disfigured,) that a single observation on the subject is rendered unnecessary, one offer of advice only accepted, viz.—Never to adopt an alternative so truly *disagreeable* and *distressing* till all the more *gentle* applications have repeatedly failed in effect; amongst which do not let the following be omitted:

**TAKE** oil of wormwood one ounce;

Amber and origanum of each half an ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine and opodeldoc of each four ounces; and let a proportion (according to the injury sustained) be gently rubbed into the part twice every day.

Or,

**TAKE** extract of Saturn and camphorated spirits each two ounces;

Opodeldoc four ounces.—Mix the extract and camphorated spirits together; then add the opodeldoc, and use as above, never omitting the use of proper bandage.

In corroboration of my own remarks upon the inconsistency of rashly bringing into use the *burning cautery*, I must beg to introduce the judicious opinion of OSMER upon the operation of *firing*, which I shall quote exactly in his own words, from a treatise of his that never  
fell

fell into my hands till a few weeks after the original publication of *this work*.

“ Between the tendon and the skin of the leg,  
“ as nothing intervenes but a thin membrane,  
“ what hand can determine betwixt the boun-  
“ daries of those bodies, whose appearance, by  
“ the heat of the iron, is made undistinguish-  
“ able to the eye. Now mark the event of  
“ firing.—If the fire reaches no further than  
“ the skin, little advantage can accrue to the  
“ tendon, but the fibres of the skin will become  
“ contracted and less pliant; if the fire reaches  
“ the membrane or sheath of the tendon, some  
“ of its glands are destroyed, and the tendon  
“ becomes more or less frigid. If the ten-  
“ don be burnt the consequence will be still  
“ worse, and in either case the velocity of  
“ motion will be impeded; on all these occa-  
“ sions the horse should be turned to grass and  
“ indulged with proper rest, that the diseased  
“ parts may recover their former firmness,  
“ tone and strength.”

## C L A S S II.

CRACKS, SCRATCHES, THRUSH,  
AND GREASE.

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CRACKS AND SCRATCHES

IN the heels are so evidently children of the same family, that, not being able to reap any advantage from their separation, it would be very unfair to part them. Every reader well knows, without information from me, that, in the general *search for cures* in the books gone before upon this subject, they have been most plentifully furnished with remedies, and those very concise too. The whole class of *corrosives, detergents, repellents, and restringents*, have been let loose, affording ample food to indulge the most extensive *appetite for experiment*. But *modern and experimental practice* abandons this beaten

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beaten barren tract of *alum*, *lead*, *vitriol*, *mercury*, and a long list of inveterate poisons, coming immediately to a rational system founded on common observation and long experience.

CRACKS and SCRATCHES, in *nine* cases out of every *ten*, are undoubtedly produced by *negligence* and a *want of care* in the SUPERINTENDENT; and not, as is too frequently supposed, from a bad habit, or an acrimonious state of the blood.

In many stables, (particularly where the master seldom pays a visit,) so as the carcase is sleek, the feet and heels are left to take care of themselves. From this circumstance in severe weather (when the parts below the fetlock are left in a wet, dirty, and slovenly condition,) do these complaints originate, evidently resulting more from bad grooms than bad habit. It is likewise remarkable that the *mode of treatment* for a century past has been in *direct opposition* to the EFFORTS of NATURE, without the introduction of a single attempt to co-operate in her endeavours. Instead of *corrosive* washes, *detergent* lotions, *repelling* liniments, or *restringent* embrocations, calculated to form  
rigid



## CRACKS AND SCRATCHES. 93

rigid *escbars*, or painful *callosities*, I shall communicate, and earnestly recommend, a *safe, simple and effectual* METHOD OF CURE, which I have never yet seen *once* fail in an experience of *twenty* years.

In every *twenty-four* hours, but more particularly at *each* time of the horse's returning from the road or exercise, let the CRACKS or SCRATCHES be washed for a considerable time with *soap* and *warm water*, making a lather, and continuing to rub them tenderly with the *suds*, till they become pliable, and perfectly clear from every degree of scurf, or hardness at the edges, and the stiffened mucus, or oozing, is entirely washed away; then wipe very dry with a linen cloth, and when perfectly so, rub in a sufficient quantity of *camphorated spermaceti ointment*: there is no doubt but they will soon submit to this simple treatment, if regularly persevered in. On the contrary, if in some days after this method has been adopted, you perceive the CRACKS to be deep, the discharge copious, and the smell foetid or stinking, you may naturally conclude there is a foulness in the habit, or an acrimony in the blood, requiring rectification; in that case con-  
tinue

tinue your *washings* with *soap* and *warm water* every night and morning; take away a proportion of blood, according to the directions before given under that head, rubbing in a small quantity of the strong *mercurial ointment* (instead of the camphorated spermaceti,) administering *two* purging balls: and if necessary afterwards a diuretic ball, every other morning for a fortnight, as will be hereafter described, under the article *Grease*, when we come to that subject.

## T H R U S H,

Commonly called “the *Running Thrush*,” is a varicous state of the frog, which, becoming perforated in different parts, bears the appearance of rapid decay and rottenness; occasioned by an ichorous corrosive discharge, frequently the evident effects of neglect in suffering the horse to go badly shod, till the frog, by repeated bruises, loses its original property, and becomes diseased. To *inattention* the complaint is generally owing, and by *early care* is as generally cured. Though there are undoubtedly instances

instances of such defects being what are termed natural blemishes ; but the mode of treatment will be similar and effective. The putrid, ragged, or rotten part of the frog should be constantly pared away, as should also the hoof that bears upon the defective parts. The bottom of the foot should be frequently washed with warm water, particularly after coming into the stable ; and, when dry, the whole frog moistened slightly with tincture of myrrh. The feet should be constantly stopped with a composition of the following proportion :

Cow dung, seven pounds ;

Vinegar and chamber-lye, of each one pint.—Mix.

If the complaint displays (by its depth or foetidity) a degree of inveteracy, assist with the following diuretic balls :

**TAKE** white soap, eight ounces ;

Nitre and rosin (in powder) of each three ounces ;

Camphor and oil of juniper, of each three drachms ;

form the mass into half a dozen balls, and let one be given every, or every other, morning, as the state of the case requires.

But

∴ But should the horse be visibly foul, and, by his whole appearance, indicate a tendency to fluctuating humours, from an impurity in the blood, a course of physic is first to be adopted, preceded by a proportional bleeding, regulating both by the directions given under those distinct heads. These instructions properly attended to, no doubt need be entertained of a perfect cure; yet it had in most cases (particularly where the defect has been severe, or the frog very much impaired) much better be fully confirmed by turning out to grass for an adequate length of time, where the softness of the pasture may act as a natural cataplasm, promoting the growth of the frog to its original state of strength and perfection.

## G R E A S E.

We are told by an author of the latest date, what is almost universally understood by those at all acquainted with the animal œconomy, that “the blood is conveyed from the heart  
 “to the extremities by the arteries, and re-  
 “turned by the veins; in which latter the  
 “blood

“blood is to rise in perpendicular columns,  
“to return the circulating fluids from the ex-  
“tremities. Hence swellings in the legs of  
“horses may be easily accounted for, from a  
“partial stagnation of the blood and juices in  
“the finer vessels, where the circulation is  
“most languid; and especially where there is  
“a want of due exercise, and a proper muscu-  
“lar compression upon the vessels to push for-  
“ward the returning blood, and propel the  
“inert or half-stagnating fluid through their  
“vessels.” This is one reason (where a reason  
is wanting and must be obtained), and is quoted  
entirely for the service of those who require  
*no other*. But, as many may wish to receive  
more satisfactory information upon the subject,  
it will be necessary to afford it a nicer elucida-  
tion.

Indeed it cannot be supposed that any reader  
possessing the smallest degree of rational con-  
ception will fall into this ridiculous idea, and  
implicitly believe NATURE has prevented her  
own laws, by appropriating to certain offices  
vessels inadequate to the purposes for which  
they were formed. That the vessels are small  
in the extremities must be acknowledged;  
H that

that the contents are proportional, cannot be denied: these positions being admitted, it certainly shall follow, the less the weight or substance, the less must be the force required to give it motion: this force is retained in the contracting power of the vessels acting upon their own contents, exclusive of the assisting muscular compression mentioned by the author above quoted, which (in the system of circulation) can only prove the secondary consideration. I do not mean to enter into tedious and unentertaining disquisitions upon the laws of *nature* and *motion*, but hope (and naturally conclude) every reader will coincide with me in *one* opinion—that these vessels are as fully adequate to the offices assigned them in the extremities, as those whose capacities have fixed them in the more noble parts.

This truth being allowed (as by every intelligent reader it must be), I consider NATURE totally exculpated from the accusation of insufficiency in the execution of her own laws; and doubt not, in the investigation of the subject, we shall be able to produce more satisfactory reasons for the appearance and progress

progress of this disease, than any we have yet seen offered to public consideration.

That “a partial stagnation of the blood and “juices in the finer vessels, where the circulation is most languid,” may and does happen, I readily admit, but by no means so often as to constitute the disease we now treat of; if so (the extremities in most horses being the same, as well as the circumference or capacity of the vessels and force of circulation), there can be no doubt but nineteen out of every twenty would be afflicted with this malady, from an “ERROR in NATURE,” that no human foresight can prevent, or judgment remove.

BARTLET (who is the author before alluded to) says, in the passage there quoted, “the “horses most subject to it are those where “there is a due want of exercise.” In compliment to an author of merit and repute, we will admit this for a moment; but, the better to establish my own point, I shall claim the privilege of making one *observation*, in direct opposition to an assertion that has required some authority by remaining so long uncontradicted. And as I, from the first moment of my

embarkation in this treatise, have totally disclaimed the very idea of implicit obedience to the dictation of those who have preceded me on the subject, I now come to the declaration of an opinion directly opposite to what we have just quoted, and (as no bad prelude to what is to follow) wrest the attention of the reader to the following circumstance, well worthy of note.—That the horses having the most regular and temperate exercise, food, air, and water, ARE the *very* subjects that are in general more severely afflicted with this disease than any other, no one will attempt to disprove. For instance, those passing under the denomination of “cart horses,” employed in teams, agriculture, road waggon, &c. and this circumstance alone, if unassisted with other testimony, would very much warp the opinion before-mentioned; and prove both the vessels and circulation to be less culpable in this business than that writer seemed to imagine.

It is a circumstance known to the most superficial observer, that enormous quantities of hair are permitted to remain upon the heels of *draft horses* of the above description, without exception; and it is in vain to expostulate upon the



the absurdity, by enlarging upon the heat it occasions in summer, or the dirt and filth it harbours in winter. You are told, in return, "of its utility in preventing injuries from flints, bruises from stones," &c. this is the evident effect of instinctive obstinacy and ignorance, transmitted from fire to son; and is one of the most palpable reasons that can be produced for the frequent appearance and progress of this complaint, whether proceeding originally from a hidden accumulation of external nastiness or internal impurity.



As I mean however to give the explanation of this disease the face of novelty, I shall hint only at the impossibility of removing, from under the loads of hair just described, the quantity of dirt and extraneous matter that must inevitably lodge there, and continue to accumulate, without even a probability of extirpation; and proceed to hazard an opinion, or perhaps a fact, that the proportion of secreted perspirable matter, making its efforts here (as elsewhere) for a natural discharge, is obstructed by the mass or filth caked upon the surface, as before explained; and becomes, in the course of time, too *viscid* and *substantial* to be again

absorbed and carried into the circulation. This is palpably the state of the case; and NATURE, said by BARTLET to be deficient in her own office, is not so but upon compulsion; the constant flow of perspirable matter to the parts so evidently obstructed, totally overpower every effort of Nature; and, from the accumulation of matter, the vessels certainly become inadequate to the task of conveying TREBLE the proportion for which they were intended: the extremities being by these means overloaded and distended, the contents not only become, from their stagnation, *putrid and corrosive*, but at length, by their *acrimonious* quality, perforate the integuments in a *fætid ichor*; and, by a particular sharpness in its cutaneous oozing, gives a *callosity* or *hardness* to the edges of the apertures, small as they are, constituting, in this disease, a greater or less degree of inveteracy, according to the state and temperament of the blood at the time of attack.

The disorder having once made its appearance, will, in its progress, beyond every admission of doubt, be almost entirely regulated by the favourable or unfavourable state of the habit, which must now be more minutely  
inquired

inquired into. But as it appears very little amongst horses of the first or second class, appropriated to either turf or field, and is confined chiefly to those before described, or such as are unluckily destined to a hard road, and a *harder* master, fall in for a much greater proportion of WORK than CARE; I avail myself of this additional observation to corroborate any former assertion, or opinion,—that this complaint frequently originates much more in the *ill humours* of the *groom* than the HORSE; to which the carelessness and inattention of the master does not sometimes a little contribute.

But as an ancient adage instructs us to believe “There is no rule without exception,” so I am willing to admit the exception, and allow that a *viscosity* or *tenacity* in the blood may engender *foulness*; and *impurities* may be produced by omitting to correct and purify *acrimony* on the one part, or a *sluggish cohesion* on the other. Collections of matter may be formed, and are undoubtedly the EFFORTS of NATURE to disburden herself of the *morbid affection*; and she most wisely makes those efforts as remote as possible from the vital principle of action, and in the parts best qualified to bear the operation,

H 4

Thus

Thus-much produced to inculcate the doctrine of the disease, let us endeavour to establish (contrary to the custom of a century past) the most rational and less objectionable mode of obtaining relief in cases of so much pain and trouble. So soon as the attack is discovered, or the appearance of disease is ascertained, let blood be taken away, with a proper reference to the directions given under that head; letting your quantity be proportioned to the size, state, and strength of your horse; and so soon as the blood is cold, let an examination be made of its state, and proceed accordingly. If you find the BLOOD is firmly coagulated with a small proportion of serum or liquid, that the crassamentum, or mass, is livid, with a coat of size or gelatinised matter upon the surface, you may immediately conclude there is too great a tenacity and adhesion in the BLOOD for the office of circulation through the smaller vessels; and that such quality has contributed to the cause of obstruction under which the subject is discovered to labour. If the disease is in its earliest state, and does not seem to indicate rapid *signs* of *inveteracy*; and the horse is not remarkably *foul* or out of *condition*, it may probably submit to the mildest method

method of treatment: as for instance, let the parts affected be *well washed twice* every day with *soft* water made warm, and plentifully impregnated with *soap*, so as to form a substantial lather; with which every defective or offensive spot should be most patiently rubbed; so as to clear the surface of all scurf, scabs, or indurated matter; then *wipe* the parts gently *dry* with a linen cloth; and so soon as well dried, wash where necessary with as much as is requisite of the following LOTION:

TAKE tincture of myrrh and camphorated spirits of wine each one ounce;

Of best white wine vinegar and spring water, each two ounces.—Mix together:

And when well dried in, slightly rub over with a small quantity of the following OINTMENT:

TAKE of white diachylon plaster three ounces, olive oil four ounces; melt together over the fire; then keep stirring till cold, and mix upon a stone with three drachms of the sugar of lead, first powdered very fine in a mortar.

And let one of the following DIURETIC BALLS be given every other morning for a course

course of one dozen : but if the horse is evidently gross in habit, and foul in excrement, this course must be preceded by two doses of physic, prepared according to his strength and condition, from some of those prescribed under the directions for purging. See page 36.

## DIURETIC BALLS.

TAKE of Castile, or best Bristol soap, twelve ounces ;  
 Yellow rosin and nitre (in powder) each eight  
 ounces ;  
 Camphire (in powder) one ounce ;  
 Oil of juniper six drachms ;  
 Mix with as much syrup or honey as required, and  
 divide into a dozen balls, and roll up in liquorice  
 aniseed powder,

If the disease is farther advanced, and displays a palpable inveteracy, the parts considerably enlarged, and the discharge both foetid in itself and copious in quantity (the *blood* being as before described), bleed again in four or five days; giving in two days, or three at most, *one* of the PURGING BALLS, adding of  
*murcurius*

*mercurius dulcis* (commonly called calomel) two drachms; working it off as before described, and using every precaution to avoid cold: at the expiration of four or five clear days, repeat the *purging ball*, adding or diminishing (that is changing the number), so as to render it effectual in respect to strength. In three days after the setting of which second dose, begin a *course* of the above DIURETIC BALLS, and let *one* be given every morning for a fortnight, three weeks, or a month, as may be found necessary. The washing with the solution of soap in warm water to be regularly and substantially repeated *twice* every day; the parts to be *fomented* after each washing with *flannels* dipped in a hot decoction of *camomile*, *wormwood*, *marshmallows*, and *rosemary*, for a quarter of an hour or more; and this to be followed, if necessary, by the application of a POULTICE prepared with equal parts of *ryemeal* and *oatmeal*; with *garlic* and *white lily root*, of each two ounces; both beat to a paste, and all mixed together to a proper consistence, with a part of the decoction prepared for the fomentation; and then stir in a quarter of a pound of *lard*, and apply as warm as may be with safety.

On the contrary, if circumstances should not be so severe as to require the *poultice*, the following OINTMENT may be plentifully applied after the fomentation (when rubbed dry); or, in worse cases, when the poultice is left off:

TAKE ointment of elder four ounces;

Camphire, powdered and molified with a little olive oil, six drachms;

Of liquid laudanum and extract of Saturn, each two drachms;

Mix well together, and keep close stopped for use.

But when the case is so obstinate as to bear no signs of submission either in a reduction of the discharge, or a decrease of the swelling, let longitudinal and transverse *scarifications* be made superficially with a fleam, in number and distance proportioned to the distension of the parts, (or inveteracy of appearance), so as to ensure a plentiful *discharge* of *blood* and *sanies*. Immediately after the discharge, apply a poultice very warm, and sufficiently large to cover all the parts, compounded of the following ingredients:

TAKE



TAKE of coarse brown bread and boiled turnips equal parts, and mash well over the fire: adding a sufficient quantity of stale strong beer to give it a proper consistence: and stir in of best flour of mustard one ounce, turpentine two ounces, linseed powder three ounces, and lard six ounces, or sufficient to keep it from getting too stiff.

This must be continued night and morning till a change in appearance renders a *variation* or *treatment* necessary, regulating the use of purgatives or diuretics by the face of the disease, and the discretion of the *prescriber, farrier, or groom*; adopting such choice of the various methods pointed out as may rationally appear most applicable to the state and changes of the subject. During the whole progress of cure, such proportion of *gentle motion* or *exercise* should be adopted as the nature and circumstances of the disease will bear; and the horse, if at a proper season of the year, be turned out to enjoy the advantages of gradual and voluntary motion, so soon as his state will admit, first observing however mild or severe this disease may have been. So soon as the discharge has declined its foetidity (or offensive smell)

smell is subdued, and the swelling totally subsided, the cure may be completed by well *washing* the parts with equal proportions of *soap lees* and *good vinegar*, once every day, occasionally moistening, with a small quantity of the *ointment* before-mentioned, compounded of *diachylon plaster*, *olive oil*, and *sugar of lead*, page 105.

Having treated largely upon that degree of foulness termed GREASE, originating in a palpable combination of neglect and nastiness, strengthened by internal grossness and viscosity of blood, with the various methods of treatment adapted to each distinct stage of disease, let us revert to the same disease, formed by a very distinct and separate cause, where, from the kind of horse and the care constantly taken, we are instantly *convinced* it must *arise* from an acrimonious state of the blood and juices, or an hereditary retention or taint from SIRE or DAM.

In this case the first step to cure must be the same as with the other; that is, bleed to a proper quantity, according to the state of your subject:

subject: if he is *full* of flesh, *high* in condition, and has had no *forced* evacuations for a length of time, take sufficient in proportion to strength: if the symptoms are powerful and threaten obstinacy, give him a *couple* of the following PURGING BALLS six days apart; the management being strictly regulated by the *directions* given under the *article of purging*, page 35.

TAKE succotrine aloes nine drachms;  
Æthiop's mineral half an ounce;  
Castile soap and jalap of each two drachms;  
Ginger one drachm;  
Oil of juniper forty drops;  
Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball.

If this proportion does not purge quite so much as desired, add another *drachm of aloes*; if on the contrary it is thought to relax too much, take off a drachm of the jalap. In four days after the last dose, begin with one of the following BALLS, and repeat it *every* morning for fifteen days, three weeks, or a month, as the urgency or mildness of the case may require.

TAKE

TAKE of antimony finely levigated, sulphur,  
 nitre, and Æthiop's mineral, each three ounces ;  
 Castile soap ten ounces ;  
 Oil of juniper three drachms ;  
 Syrup of honey sufficient to make the mass, which  
 divide into a dozen balls, rolling them in liquo-  
 rice or amixed powder.

This disease has been so fully explained, and every method of cure so minutely entered into, that the reader can be at no loss for farther instructions under this head, having such a variety of prescriptions to assist his endeavours, if he will but industriously exert his judgment on the occasion.

And this in fact becomes necessary even in its earliest state; for, by remaining long uncorrected, it soon assumes a degree of virulence, particularly in subjects remarkably foul and out of condition; occasioning a greater portion of trouble and inconvenience than can possibly happen in almost any other disease. To obviate this difficulty, and counteract the tendency as much as possible, such hints will be found in the Appendix respecting the manage-  
 ment

ment of draft horse, as take into consideration and properly attended to, may, in a great measure, reduce the number constantly labouring under this distemper; many of whom, by neglect and injudicious treatment, are doomed to perpetual punishment, and relinquished as incurable.

## C L A S S III.

HIDEBOUND, SURFEIT, MANGE,  
AND FARCY.

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HIDEBOUND

IS a subject that has hitherto been very little treated of, and by no means at all satisfactorily. It has been attributed to many causes; but from every observation I have been able to make, I must confine it to few. The signs are, a want of flexibility in the skin, which is pervaded by a general stiffness that seems to form an entire adhesion to the flesh, without the least partial separation or distinction. There is a kind of dusty scurf, plainly perceived underneath the hair, that raises it up in different parts; and, giving it another hue, the coat in many places forms an appearance of two or three colours; conveying, even in  
this

this trifling circumstance, a *very forcible idea* of POVERTY in both *food* and *raiment*. The horse is generally languid, dull, heavy, and weak; his excrement is dark, foul, and offensive; he sweats much upon very moderate exertions; then his coat itares, the hair turns different ways, (which in its effluvia is disagreeable,) and affords evident proof of weakness and debilitation. The cause requires very little animadversion, and it bears the face of *poverty* (in food and attention) upon every trait of its countenance.

*Bad food* and want of *stable care* are, in general, the only probable reasons that can be assigned for this complaint, or defect. Long lank grass in low swampy land in autumn, and musty hay or bad oats at any season, may in some degree allay the hunger, but not gratify the appetite; for, being in itself destitute of the effect and quality of superior food, no nutritive contribution can be conveyed for the generation of blood or formation of flesh. The sources for the supply of chyle being thus obstructed, the lymphatics are deprived of their due proportion of nutritive fluid that should pass through these smaller vessels, and

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they

they become not only in some measure contracted, but in a great degree inactive, which, with the want of proper external care and dressing, contribute to an almost universal obstruction of the cutaneous pores. These, from the preternatural debilitation of the general system, are compulsively thrown open upon the most moderate exercise, when a horse that is (from excellent food, care, and attention) in what is termed good condition will not display the least moisture upon his skin, even in undergoing a much greater proportion of fatigue.

Thus much is introduced to prove its existence as an original complaint, probably caused by these means, when abstracted from its consideration as a symptomatic attendant upon any other. And when that is really the case, by effectually removing the cause, the effect will cease; or, in other words, cure the disease on which it is attendant, and you will of course get rid of its concomitant likewise. In respect to its *cure*, very little instruction will be necessary, for (under judicious management) it is hardly entitled to the appellation of *disease*, being in fact no more than



a temporary inconvenience. Therefore, by way of affording some little change to the circulation of the blood, take away a small quantity, and in three or four hours after, increase its *impetus* by a mash of malt, oats, and bran, equal parts; continuing it every night for a fortnight, stirring in two ounces of flour of brimstone every other night; giving his other feeds (morning and noon) equal parts of oats and bran, with half a pint of old beans in each, to prevent relaxing the body too much by the mashes. To give this method of cure some certainty of success, regular and substantial dressing, air, exercise, sound oats, sweet hay, and good soft water, will greatly contribute. And when by these means he has visibly improved in hide, coat, and condition, let him have twice in the week a brushing gallop, to produce a tolerable sweat and enliven the circulation; taking great care not to let him stand still till he is perfectly cool; when his dressing should be thoroughly gone through with attention, care, and perseverance, every night and morning. If this method should be unattended with success, there must be some unknown cause lurking behind; in which case go through a mild course of physic,

feeding well between the doses, or a regular administration of diuretics, as described in the last class.

## S U R F E I T.

THIS word has been the constant friend and frequent resource of all country farriers, and may, with great truth, be termed “The Farrier’s *Vade Mecum*,” abridged to a word of two syllables, for the convenience of technical explanation and vulgar comprehension. For certainly so soon as a cutaneous eruption appears, indicating an acrimonious state of the blood, or a degeneracy of habit, it is (with a wonderful degree of sagacity, and almost incredible penetration,) confidently pronounced “A SURFEIT;” but what a *surfeit* is, unless, as *Captain le Brush*, in the *Register Office*, defines *chaos* to be “a sort of—, a kind of “a—*chaos*;” they silently acknowledge *they cannot tell*. And what makes it the more unfortunate for them is, that BARTLET, the great “god of their idolatry,” to whom they *look* for every information, omitted to give them the least clue by which they might gloss their  
their

their ignorance. “For,” says he, *in toto*, “surfeits arise from various causes: but are commonly the effects of *some* diseases not attended to, or that have been ill cured.” Whether this can be called an elucidation, or is entitled to the compliment of “*multum in parvo*,” I leave to the discerning reader, anxious for instruction; and gladly submit to his *impartial* decision alone, whether we are not likely to derive greater gratification to our inquiries from a more minute investigation.

As the above mentioned writer has been indulgently *concise*, another has been most *tediously prolix*, who, after taking a trip through almost every KNOWN disease, *feeling* for the cause, plainly tells you, “it may originate in ALL or ANY; but it most commonly proceeds from a horse’s constantly feeding till he can feed no longer.” We thank him heartily for such very USEFUL *information*; and proceed to our own part of the task, but not without the necessary compliment of making one observation upon *his*—That it is very natural to suppose a horse constantly supplied with food, even to satiety, must be *fat*, (at least in tolerable condition,) whereas on the

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contrary,

contrary, it is universally seen, that horses labouring under the disease known by the appellation of SURFEIT, are generally *poor*.

There is no rational unprejudiced man living who will not most cheerfully subscribe his opinion to a fair investigation and demonstration of TRUTH, rather than every *fallacious conjecture* that may be forcibly seized upon by a POST-HASTE *author*, impatient to arrive at the goal of his undertaking.

Of SURFEITS then there are two kinds, originating from different causes, one being no more than a very advanced stage of the case last described; which being long neglected, continues to encrease, with *all* its *symptoms* before mentioned, till the entire *mass of blood* being at last *affected*, displays itself upon the surface of the body with a degree of virulence that forcibly appeals to the *sensations* of the *owner*; and *necessity*, by the plea of SELF-INTEREST, prompts him to yield, in his own defence, what the dictates of *humanity* had in vain *endeavoured to obtain*. This I consider one *embellishment* to the FARRIER's abstruse abridgment; to which I shall add an additional definition

definition of this disease, that has for ages occasioned infinite *looks* of *surprise*, and *exertions* of *wisdom*, when invoking the interposition of *Minerva* or *Somnus*, to elucidate a matter that even their IMMACULATE BARTLET did not condescend to explain. And as his *great* predecessor (who he has most incessantly and implicitly copied,) after ringing the changes upon almost EVERY disease, fixed his opinion of the cause upon “immoderate feeding;” I shall avail myself of the privilege afforded me in the ancient adage of “*Doctors differ*,” and declare I attribute the *cause* to HARD DRINKING. And although he declined saying much in favour of HIS opinion, I shall not omit to advance a thesis in confirmation of MINE.

The *kind* of *surfeit* differing from the former in *cause*, but very little in *effect*, is that kind where, from *ignorance*, *intoxication*, or *inattention*, a horse is suffered to drink immoderately of *cold* water, when in a violent *perspiration*, and the blood consequently in the highest degree of circulation.

The *shock* nature sustains by this *revulsion* will be instantly conceived, even by a mind  
not

nōt at all accustomed to search into the abstruse recesses of Nature. The blood, in its greatest velocity, is so instantaneously checked by the *styptic influence* of the *frigid* element, and the sudden contraction of the solids, that the CRASSAMENTUM, or balsamic part of the blood, becomes immediately thickened and inflamed, separating itself from the serum or watery part, which (being, from the inflammatory particles, impregnated with its proportion of acrimony) extravasates itself; and, by an *effort* of Nature, is propelled to the skin for transpiration, where the pores (having been instantly collapsed at the time of the water's taking effect) are so closely obstructed that its *passage* to the surface is absolutely *prevented* and rendered *impracticable*. Thus fixed, it becomes united with the *perspirable matter* already confined there (forming a morbid combination), and is, in the course of time, compelled by the progress of internal inflammation to make its way through the skin; upon which it at last appears in a variety of FORMS and different SYMPTOMS, assuming distinct degrees of malignancy, according to the *state, habit, and constitution* of the subject at the time of attack.

This

This being the exact PHYSICAL demonstration and regular *process* of the *disease*, the indications of cure aptly arise from our investigation. For instance, to resolve the inflammatory crudities, remove cutaneous obstructions, correct the acrimonious state of the blood, and gently quicken the circulation. The better to effect these, take away a *moderate* portion of blood, that the impetus may be encouraged; open the body with a few *warm nashes*; and, according to the mildness or inveteracy of its appearance, give (as the case requires) either *two or three* of the following PURGING BALLS, allowing sufficient time between each dose, and exerting more than usual precaution to avoid cold, on account of the mercurial preparation contained in its composition; though it is not only remarkably gentle in the operation, but small in quantity, and may be administered with the greatest safety and effect:

TAKE Barbadoes aloes one ounce;

Jalap (in powder) two; and

Mercurius dulcis, alias calomel, each two drachms;

Castile soap, and ginger (in powder) of each one drachm;

Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make the ball.

After

After the course of *physic* is regularly gone through, and properly conducted, let strict attention be paid to the very necessary *directions* of FOOD, dressings, water, &c. given under the last article of “HIDEBOUND;” and in three days after the last dose of *physic* begin the following course of ALTERNATIVES, persevering for a month with unremitting punctuality, if you wish to succeed in the acquisition of events fully enumerated in the indications of cure:

TAKE of antimony levigated and sulphur, each half a pound;

Æthiop's mineral and cream of tartar, each four ounces.

Mix well together, and divide into *twelve* equal parts of two ounces each, giving one every night with the feed of corn; which being first *sprinkled* with water, will retain the powders and ensure their consumption. Two ounces of *nitre* must be given every morning in a pail of *soft* water, and continued during the whole time of giving the powders. Should any trifling eschars, scabs, or excoriations, prove obstinate upon any part of the body, they may be washed with equal parts of lye (procured from the soap-boilers) and lime water. After a regular continuation of the above proportions, should no considerable advantages appear, the doses must



must be gradually increased of each, from *two* ounces to *two and an half*; and in another week to *three* ounces for each dose, of both the composition and the nitre.

## M A N G E.

THIS distemper is so universally known, that a general description of its most predominant features would be a very indifferent compliment both to the time and understanding of the reader; suffice it therefore to say, a mere superficial view of it instantly conveys to the spectator a very strong idea of general wretchedness. For surely nothing can convey it *stronger* than EXHAUSTED NATURE sinking under a *complication* of *disease* and *poverty*. And in this case so true it is “one misfortune *seldom* comes *alone*,” that the latter seems in combination to go hand in hand with this distemper where ever it makes an appearance. And as a proof of the truth in this observation, it is very little seen amongst HORSES of any ESTIMATION: on the contrary, is almost entirely confined to the lower class of stables and proprietors.

It

It is observed to fall *chiefly* upon those that have been almost *strangers* to the TASTE of *cats*, and are kept entirely on the *refuse* of provender, *barren* pasture, *musty* hay, *separated* haybands, *swampy* mossy ground, or *rusty* moors; from all which NATURE may receive a wretched EXISTENCE, but cannot be furnished with *support*; at least the support necessary to contribute nutritive juices for the constant healthy subsistence of so large a frame. From this mode of living (or rather starving) originates so severe and inveterate a disease; the economy and law of NATURE *demonstrates* it to a certainty, and renders farther ANIMADVERSION upon the subject *tedious* and *unnecessary*. For the *blood* being by this *barren* contribution robbed of what it was by nature intended to receive, becomes *impoverished* even to a degree of incredibility (by those who are unacquainted with the system of repletion and circulation); it loses its *tenacity* and *balsamic adhesive* quality, degenerating to an acrid ferous vapour that acquires malignity by its preternatural separation from its original *corrector*. Thus extravasated and unrestrained, its *morbid* effects and virulence soon display themselves upon the surface, with a severe  
and

and constant IRRITATION or ITCHING; to allay which the poor *beast* is eternally exerting himself in perpetual *rubblings*, till with those, and the loss of hair from the different parts, he bears the *universal* appearance of approaching EXCORIATION. In this predicament it has been the constant practice to get rid of ONE *devil* by the application of MANY; for instance, *quicksilver*, *aqua fortis*, *oil of vitriol*, *corrosive mercury*, *spirit of turpentine*, *sulphur of vivum*, *sal armoniac*, *tar*, *train oil*, and all the *combustibles* that could well be invented for the support of an everlasting *conflagration* in the lower regions.

Without enlarging upon this *desperate* mode of PRACTICE, I shall only acknowledge it brings to my memory a passage from that justly celebrated writer, who says

“Where the greater malady is, the lesser is not felt.”

And I naturally conclude from the purport of this sentence, their *mode* of practice was *adopted* to extirpate an itching by a course of *cauterization*; and there is no doubt but a poor devil would feel very little *uneasiness* from a *cutaneous* irritation when *burning alive* with

a combination of the most powerful CAUSTICS. That THESE PRESCRIPTIONS were in full practice upon the principle of “kill or cure,” no one will deny; for, as GIBSON says, when he speaks of the internal administration of corrosive mercury, or other POISONS, “the horse must have a very strong constitution to recover it:” and I will, in OPPOSITION to the *confidence* and *self-sufficiency* of ANY FARRIER in the kingdom, declare the above course of unction (and *extreme unction* it certainly is) hath sent more HORSEFLESH to the different *dog-kennels* than the disease itself. That the poor distressed and emaciated subjects may in future be in some degree RESCUED from such a *dreadful* scene of unmerited MISERY and PERSECUTION, such methods are *pointed out* as will certainly *eradicate* the disease, with proper attention and punctuality, unless it has been suffered by a long and *neglected* continuance to assume a degree of *inveteracy*; if so, and the horse is not of great value, I will venture to hazard an IRICISM, and assure the owner that the most merciful, certain, and least expensive CURE, will be by instantly *cutting his throat*, or *shooting him through the*

The first step to be taken is a constant supply of *WARM mash*s, prepared with half *malt* and half *bran*; or equal parts of *oats* and *bran*, with four ounces of *boney* dissolved in each: let these be given night and morning, with a feed of *dry corn* every day at noon. During this treatment (which must be continued a week, to sheath the acrimony and soften the rigidity of the skin) give one ounce of sulphur in each mash, and one ounce of nitre in water every night and morning. In a week or ten days, when the frame becomes more invigorated, *discontinue* the mashes, and let the diet be changed to *good oats* and *sweet bay*; giving, in the morning and evening feeds, one of the following *POWDERS* intermixed with the corn; first sprinkled with water:

TAKE sulphur and prepared antimony, of each a pound; rub well together in a mortar, and divide in twenty-four equal parts:

Or;

Antimony levigated, and sulphur, of each twelve ounces;

Liver of antimony and cream of tartar each half a pound.—Mix well together and divide into twenty-four equal parts; and let them be given as above directed:

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Upon

Upon first taking the subject in hand, and previous to the commencement of the mashes, procure a pail of warm water, and a quarter of a pound of soft soap (tied up in a linen rag) ; and with this let every infected part be thoroughly washed and cleansed, by forming a substantial lather, so that no scurf or filth remains upon the surface ; then rub tenderly dry with a coarse cloth or separated haybands ; and on the following morning begin to rub in a necessary portion of this OINTMENT, and repeat it for seven, ten days, or a fortnight, (as the urgency of symptoms may require) upon every part affected.

**TAKE** of the weak mercurial ointment half a pound ;  
Sulphur vivum four ounces ;  
White hellebore (in powder) three ounces ;  
Black pepper (in powder) and oil of tartar, each  
one ounce ;  
Olive oil as much as is necessary to make it sufficiently soft.

Continue the use of the powders before mentioned, with the nitre also, for three weeks or a month ; and so soon as it is conceived by the horse's condition he is in a state to bear it, take away a moderate portion of  
blood,

blood, and give him afterwards *two* very mild *doses of physic*, selected from the *prescriptions* under the article of *purging*, and this will be the more necessary, for reasons that cannot require the least explanation.

## F A R C Y.

I MUST confess I have heard, seen, and read less, to prove satisfactory, upon this distemper than any other to which the horse is subject. Every writer has described the symptoms, but no author, farrier, or groom, has ascertained the cause. Their opinions upon the subject forming a very great similitude to SCRUB's allusion in the comedy, where he says "Some say one thing, and some say another; but, for my part, I believe he's a Jesuit." This is strictly the state of the case with the FARCY; some attribute it to one cause, some to another; most declare it a bad cause, and all acknowledge the "FAULT," (as usual) to be in the *blood*.

That they are right must be admitted ; and that they are so is the less extraordinary, when a very superficial survey of the case will evidently prove it would be a difficult task to be wrong. One author gives us many pages replete with *figurative* descriptions, and runs through the whole animal mechanism to demonstrate the cause very clearly, but unluckily never draws nearer the point than to prove what a writer of more modern authority **LEARNEDLY** tells us in *two* lines, that “ the “ *true* **FARCY** is properly a distemper of the “ blood vessels, which generally follows the “ track of the veins.” What infinite satisfaction must it afford every reader, to be informed from the fountain head of instruction, that “ the blood vessels generally follow the “ track of the veins !” *Anxious* for information, and *open* to conviction, I receive the intelligence with gratitude ; and, although my retentive faculties are deceptive and imperfect, I shall exert their utmost influence to preserve, in high esteem, so excellent a *monitor* ; making no doubt but it will prove highly satisfactory to the **CURIOS** to be informed they need not *look* for a distemper of the blood vessels in the “ **TRACK**” of the  
intestines.



intestines. But to pursue this vein of irony no farther, and come to the subject in discussion, let it be observed that, from the beginning of this class, we have had occasion to ENLARGE so much upon the *acrimony, viscosity, putridity* and *tenacity* of the *blood*, under the separate articles of HIDEBOUND, SURFEIT, and MANGE, it is but natural to conclude the intelligent reader is by this time enabled to form a competent judgment of its circulation, qualities, dispositions, and effects: from rules so clear and explanatory, the system is absolutely reduced to the most minute demonstration, and cannot possibly be misunderstood.

Every reader being by these means put into possession of such reasons as may tend to form *his* own opinion, perhaps it may be the most prudent to say nothing peremptorily decisive upon the matter, but introduce *my* opinion, leaving each observer open to an exertion of his own judgment, to which of the three preceding distempers this is allied; or whether it bears the least similitude to the severity of the whole. It would be a very indifferent compliment to the patience of the enlightened

reader to repeat the technical jargon that was unavoidably necessary to explain the original causes of *grease*, *hidebound*, *surfeit*, or *mange*. An hypothetical explanation of the nature and origin of this complaint would be to go over the same ground, introducing the same law of nature in the system of circulation : the conveyance of chyle by the lymphatics or small vessels, for the generating of blood, the partial coagulation of the crassamentum, and its consequent effects ; as obstruction, putrefaction, and the appearances that follow upon different parts of the body, or in general over the whole. That this DISEASE has its different stages or degrees of malignity, according to the *state*, *habit*, *blood*, *age*, *keep*, and *condition* of the *horse*, is certain ; but generally that circumstance is misunderstood, and the different degrees of the distemper are supposed to constitute distinct kinds of the same disease,

That the distemper *originates* in an inflammatory state of blood in the first instance, gradually increasing to the greatest pitch of acrimony, and affecting the system by degrees, till the whole mass is corrupted, is too evidently  
clear

clear to admit of a doubt. The gradual and general affection of the frame may be easily reconciled to any comprehension, by the idea of a single spark of fire giving life to a combination of combustibles that soon constitute a general flame. To say the FARC Y is or can be long partial to any particular spot is a very ridiculous supposition; for although the attack may be *local* (the cause being inflammatory), it must soon be *universal* from the very nature of the circulation. Certain solid parts of the body may be individually affected by inflammation, but we naturally infer, from a knowledge of the circulation, one part of the blood cannot imbibe a temporary affection without a speedy communication to the whole.

If, as it has been before observed, “ the “ *Farcy* is a distemper of the blood vessels,” I cannot indulge a momentary doubt but such distemper in the vessels must have received the full force of disease from the acrimonious state of the blood itself; which, by its accumulating force and morbid pungency, soon exceeds the bounds prescribed by nature, making its way to the surface, by a corrosion of the vessels in which it was contained. The coat is raised in

different parts (as they become affected) with various small prominences, bearing the appearance of bunches of berries, branching off in direct uniformity with the veins. Soon after their appearance they are generally covered with a small scab or eschar, which, as they advance to maturation, peel off, and the pustules discharge a sharp ferous ichor, or a gelatinous, adhesive, putrid matter, forming ulcers of a more or less inveterate appearance, according to the degree of disease.

Previous to the present improved and rational system of cure, it may be applicable to introduce one of the promised OBSERVATIONS upon the dangerous and almost obsolete practice of others, or rather the most *cruel* experiments and *infernal* persecutions that were ever invented, or could be supposed to enter into the mind of man, for the prevention or cure of disease. In the last article treated on we produced a *tolerable* system of cruelty ; but in the FARC Y (as a more perplexing disease and greater excitement to judgment or madness) we have FIRE UPON FIRE, or effectual cauterization *treble* refined.

As

As they advanced in danger they increased in courage ; and adhering invariably to the general intention of, “ *kill or cure,*” they dealt about them with the fire of Mars and the strength of Hercules. Began with oil of vitriol and oil of turpentine ; then euphorbium, hellebore, quicksilver, oil of origanum, double aquafortis, and, to sum up the whole scene of *consistency*, made open passages with small hot irons, and touched with oil of vitriol or aquafortis ; or opening the buds, put in a small quantity of corrosive mercury, arsenic, or Roman vitriol and sublimate, equal quantities. “ But,” says the writer, “ let it be remembered that many a horse has been *poisoned* “ by these medicines ignorantly used, and in “ too large quantities.” This very acknowledgment (for which I confess I am under infinite obligations) will serve to corroborate my former assertion—that some SYSTEM has long been necessary to *rescue* this most useful and suffering animal

FROM STABULARIAN IGNORANCE  
AND EMPIRICAL CONFIDENCE.

Can it be supposed, will reason or reflection, for a moment support the idea, that the most  
severe

severe and burning caustics, very little short of actual fire, were ever calculated, when laid on by loads, to rectify the blood, or to promote an incarnation of the flesh? It must create astonishment in every mind made calm by time, or cool by experience, that men have lived, who, from a want of knowledge in the properties of medicines, could so prostitute their uses; or others prove so weak as to transmit that prostitution to posterity! But so deeply has the injurious and dangerous system taken root among the illiterate, who stick to a rustic maxim never to be obliterated, that “old laws, “old times, old songs, and old books, are “best,” and consequently fly to the latter upon every occasion; in whose instructions they have so much faith, and to whose contents they pay such implicit obedience, that the *very* DEVIL, however great his influence be in other respects, will never prevail upon that class to change their system.

That MERCURIALS and ANTIMONIALS *internally*, with necessary and occasional caustics *externally*, will (dictated by judgment, and proportioned with discretion), work wonders, experience and indefatigable attention from men of the most extensive abilities have sufficiently

ciently proved. But the abundant, unlimited, and injudicious application of such destructive *poisons*, either externally or internally, no reason can justify, or prudence direct. And what confirms it a danger of still greater magnitude is, the predominant desire to increase the doses and applications, upon a most contemptible but very common supposition; “if a small or even  
“ a moderate dose does much, a large one  
“ will CERTAINLY do a great deal more.”

The very frequent application of caustics and repellents is a custom evidently too absurd to require animadversion. Every common observer must instantly perceive the folly of repelling a morbid and malignant putrid matter to be again absorbed into the circulation, at the very time Nature has arrived at the critical effort of relieving herself from the morbid affection or preternatural load with which she is oppressed. To prevent therefore a misconception, let it be once for all understood, that in diseases of the blood or juices, however externals may occasionally alleviate as auxiliaries, the very fountain of relief must take its course from the effect of medicines internally administered. But sorry I am to believe, and  
have

have every reason to declare, penury on the one side, and a want of common humanity on the other, has in general countenanced and promoted the burning practice formerly adopted; a few ounces of oil of vitriol, turpentine, aquafortis, or a RED HOT IRON, being, in the difference of expence, much more applicable to the constitution of the POCKET than a *regular* course of alteratives.

These observations being made to point out the danger and deter the practice, more than to condemn the authors, who, to their exculpation be it remembered, wrote in times of less refinement; I shall conclude them for this class with one REMARK—That where the cure is not to be effected by the course of bleeding, purging, mercurials, antimonials, and alteratives, hereafter described, I perfectly *coincide* in opinion with a writer before quoted, who says, “ When the disease is so inveterate as to  
 “ resist every application, that the symptoms  
 “ not only continue predominant, but evidently increase, it is incurable.” And to this information I suspect he meant (but omitted to recommend what I now most heartily do,) the putting a period to a scene of pain and  
 7 misery,



misery, by taking away a life that every degree of assiduity and effort of art cannot render worthy preservation.

In respect to cure, upon the very earliest appearance take away blood in quantity as before described, and after so doing attend minutely to the quality, which circumstance will enable you to form a very decisive judgment how soon, and to what proportion, the subject will bear this evacuation, should it again be necessary; for according to the extra proportion of the *crassamentum* (or *coagulum*), and the size (or gelatinized substance upon the surface), with the disproportion of the serum, or watery part, it may be very readily ascertained how much the blood is certainly *above* or *below* the standard of mediocrity necessary for the absolute PRESERVATION of *health*. If the horse is in a high state of condition, and full of flesh, give him mashes through the day of bleeding, and the next; on the following morning let this *purging ball* be given:

TAKE succotrine aloes ten drachms;

Of calomel and jalap (in powder) each two drachms;

Ginger and oil of aniseed each a drachm;

Syrup of buckthorn or roses sufficient to form the ball.

Let

Let it be carefully attended to, and worked off as specified under the direction for purging. If the phyfic works favourably, and sets well, let his feed (if his appetite is keen), for four clear days, be plentiful; and on the fifth, or sixth at farthest, repeat his *purging ball*, conducting the operation as before. If the distemper has attacked him with violence, or makes rapid progress, a third dose must be given in like manner; on the contrary, if the disease is mild, and early discovered, the two may do. In two days after your course of phyfic is completed begin upon the following *antimonial alteratives*, assisted by a regular administration of nitre; both being continued a month without the most trifling intermission:

TAKE of prepared antimony one pound;

Common sulphur twelve ounces;

Cream of tartar eight ounces;

Cinnabar of antimony six ounces.

Incorporate well in a mortar, and divide into *twenty* equal parts, giving ONE every night in the corn, first sprinkling with water to ensure its adhesion; giving two ounces of nitre in the water every morning, at which time he will generally drink it with the greater avidity,

avidity, as being most thirsty. This proportion is meant for the distemper in its mildest state; when the buds or swelling, upon their first appearance, may be well washed with the following *lotion* twice every day:

TAKE extract of Saturn two ounces;  
Camphorated spirits of wine eight ounces;  
Distilled vinegar a pint;  
Mix well together and keep close stopp'd for use.

Should the distemper be in a more advanced or inveterate stage, bleeding should be repeated, in proper time, between the physic, in a moderate degree; and upon the scabs or eschars peeling from the buds, with a degree of inveterate malignity, wash them well occasionally with the following:

TAKE corrosive mercury two drachms, dissolve in half a pint of British brandy; then add of white wine vinegar a pint; half a pint of spring water, and two ounces of tincture of myrrh; shaking well together:

Or,

TAKE sugar of lead and white vitriol each an ounce;  
Distilled vinegar and spring water each one pint;  
Stryptic tincture three ounces.—Mix together.

. Should

Should the ulcers continue foul, and their edges become callous, very small quantities of the strong mercurial ointment must be gently rubbed into the centre of the most inveterate, once in three or four days, cleansing them occasionally with one of the washes before mentioned. In this case one of the following *mercurial* ALTERATIVE BALLS must be given regularly every morning for a month, or longer if necessary; altering your proportion of nitre to three ounces, which must, in the arrangement of this course, be given in the water every evening, upon the visible necessity of introducing your ball in the morning:

TAKE Æthiop's mineral four ounces;

Of milk of brimstone, prepared antimony, cream of tartar, and cinnabar of antimony, each five ounces;

Honey sufficient to make a mass; divide into a dozen equal balls, and roll up in liquorice or aniseed powder.

These remedies are founded upon a system of certainty to effect all that alteratives can do; and are directed in such proportions as may be given with the greatest safety, and calculated to bear some additions to their more active ingredients, at the discretion of the prescriber,

should an unexpected resistance render it necessary. And upon the introduction of such additions, and a perseverance in the alteration for a proper length of time, should the whole mass prove so virulently corrupted as to display no sign of submission to such treatment, there can be no doubt but death would put a very desirable period to the business, and had much better be solicited than rejected.

\*.\* For a singular case and cure, see Supplement.

## C L A S S IV.

WOUNDS, ULCERS, FISTULA;  
AND POLL EVIL.

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WOUNDS

ARE a species of injury to which horses are not only perpetually liable, but of so many different kinds, and requiring such various modes of treatment, (according to the cause, appearance, situation, depth, and state of the wound, or habit of the subject) that, to enumerate the whole, with all possible or probable circumstances, would be to write a volume on the article alone; which is certainly entitled to every degree of *attention* and *instruction*, from the simple and complex cases that so frequently occur. And though it may naturally be supposed that wounds of size, depth, or danger, must consequently come under the

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immediate care and inspection of the *operative*; FARRIER; whose judgment or experience, should direct him upon all cases of emergency, as time will not admit of reference to books; and even with such assistance, much more will depend upon his *experimental* dexterity, or expertness in manual operation, than any information he may derive from *literary* instruction, when a sudden exertion of judgment or fortitude is immediately necessary.

WOUNDS may be divided into such a variety; that to enumerate the list of probabilities would be to encounter the work of an age, and serve more to *perplex* than *enlighten* those not altogether adequate to the task of defining technical terms or professional descriptions. To enlarge upon every probable means by which a wound may be received, and from the variety of weapons, or stable instruments, is an absolute impracticability; we will therefore “take up” the mangled matter at the best,” and endeavour, by a very fair and extensive explanation, to give such DIRECTIONS as shall enable the *professional superintendent*, or *occasional assistant*, to form a proper idea of the business, and make such effectual APPLICATIONS

as may prevent the necessity of calling in extra-assistance, or running into any extremes of practice not *warranted* by REASON or *justified* by NECESSITY.

Finding how very difficult it is to describe the multiplicity of wounds that may probably occur, and the many changes to which they are liable, I shall be studiously attentive to inculcate such information and directions as will, I am induced to believe, exculpate me from the accusation of treating the subject worse than it deserves.

In all wounds the danger is greatest, or the cure most difficult, where large *blood vessels* are separated, the *tendons* injured, or the vital *parts* affected. The regular process of NATURE constituting the cure of wounds, is the *suppression* of blood, the subsequent digestion, or discharge of matter, the incarnation or filling up with flesh, and the cicatrization or skinning over. To effect the *first*, if the injury sustained has separated any blood vessel of sufficient magnitude to produce a hæmorrhage or bleeding of consequence, let the mouth be taken up, by passing a proper needle underneath,

neath,



neath, furnished with a waxed thread, and made fast according to art or professional knowledge. The person, whose immediate province it is to execute this task, should, no doubt, be amply furnished with the necessary apparatus, (as a variety of needles both crooked and straight) ready provided for the *faculty* by every INSTRUMENT-MAKER in London. This operation *depends* so much upon *professional skill* and *experimental practice*, that it is in vain to enlarge upon a subject, to comprehend which would require an entire knowledge of the blood vessels, an ACQUISITION only to be obtained by *theoretical* study and *practical* experience.

When the mouths of the bleeding vessels are obscured, or so surrounded with soft parts that it is impossible to secure the orifice by the assistance of the needle, (which must be absolutely accomplished if an artery is separated) *apply* immediately a *pledget* of *lint* or *tow*, plentifully impregnated with *tincture of myrrh*, *friar's balsam*, or *camphorated spirits*; relying in this instance upon the advantage and safety of a *bandage* (judiciously adapted, and properly applied), as much as the medical efficacy of *styptic* applications. NATURE in this

business (as in most others) is, in a great degree, adequate to her own work; and will, by the very *balsamic* property of the blood, do more in *nine* superficial cases out of *ten* than a long list of *ill-formed* UNGUENTS, reported to have effected the most miraculous cures. In addition to this circumstance it must be remembered, that a speedy cure depends upon bringing the edges of the wound into early contact, which should (particularly if the case is alarming) be immediately performed, by taking up the necessary stitches at proper distances (according to circumstances and discretion) with such needle as the case may require; an operation so very trifling, that it may be most readily executed by any person not at all proficient in the practice, should an emergency render such exertion unavoidably necessary. Taking great care, in large *wounds*, not to draw the edges too close to each other, and hazard the breaking out of the stitches, or bringing on an inflammation by an accumulation of confined matter, in not leaving sufficient room for a proper digestion. But in general, where the edges are expeditiously secured and brought into tolerable contact, the *wound* is very little trouble; the soft parts unite favourably by the  
adhesive

adhesive quality of the blood, and the cicatrix is speedily formed, without application to the elaborate preparations of art. In cases of this kind the dressings should not be taken off in less than *eight-and-forty hours*; and, if a large wound, (where the bleeding was difficult to suppress) not less than *three* days, unless the part has begun to digest, and a perceptible discharge is come on; or the parts surrounding the wound are very much inflamed; in which case the following mild **POULTICE** may be applied:

TAKE of bread and barley-meal equal parts;

Goulard's vegeto mineral water sufficient to make it of a proper consistence; and add

Lard four or six ounces, at least enough to keep it sufficiently moist.

Let this be renewed twice every day till the swelling or inflammation subsides, and the wound begins to digest or discharge favourably.

*To make the VEGETO-MINERAL WATER.*

TAKE extract of Saturn one ounce;

Camphorated spirits of wine two ounces.

Mix together, and add of rain or river water one quart.

So soon as the swelling subsides, and the wound begins to display favourable signs of digestion, dress with the following, which may, without more mention, be always understood as the general *stable digestive ointment*, and is thus prepared:

TAKE olive oil one pint;

Yellow wax and black rosin each four ounces;

Burgundy pitch and turpentine each two ounces.

Melt the wax, rosin, and Burgundy pitch, in the oil, over a slow fire; when taken off, stir in the turpentine. For large wounds, where a plentiful discharge is required, stir into this quantity three ounces of the spirit of turpentine, that it may incorporate in getting cool.

It is here necessary to observe, nothing can be more truly ridiculous than the idea of applying *greasy* or *unctuous* substances to recent wounds merely superficial, and by which none  
of

of the large vessels are affected. For most superficial wounds, or simple lacerations, proceeding from what cause soever, may in general be very soon made perfectly sound, by a single application of the *tincture* or *balsam* before mentioned; or equal parts of *camphorated spirits* and *vinegar*, bandaging up properly, and not opening for some days, that the mouths of the vessels may be sufficiently constricted and hardened before they are exposed to the air; using every precaution to prevent a relaxation of the parts, by the admission of water or applications of ointment. On the contrary, should a slight *discharge* come on, keep the wound clean, and dress with the DIGESTIVE in very small quantities till the cure is complete.

The spirituous or restraining APPLICATIONS, by their *stypticity*, so constrict the mouths of the smaller vessels near the surface, (acting in concert with the natural cement of the blood), as to render, in many instances, the *efficious intrusions* of ART totally unnecessary: but *this* method of cure is frequently rejected as too easy, and the salutary course of Nature is often obstructed and perverted by the SELF-SUFFICIENT sagacity of THOSE proficients

ficients in QUACKERY, who, piquing themselves upon a *family receipt* or *nostrum of antiquity*, had rather prolong the complaint for weeks or months, merely to obtain the reputation of curing what, intrusted to NATURE, would have absolutely cured itself.

Should wounds happen from complicated causes, where the adjacent or surrounding parts have received additional injury (from a fall or bruise), an inflammation and larger *discharge of matter* may consequently ensue, than from a simple wound where no sudden or violent impression upon the vessels or soft parts has taken place: large wounds proceeding from any cause, where an evident destruction and *loss of parts* has been occasioned, can only receive substantial cure from the regeneration and incarnation: being a work of Nature, and to be effected only by the co-operation of time, it must be waited for with care and patience; as it can originate in no other feature than granulations of new flesh, which, with proper application, will daily continue to increase till the wound or cavity is entirely filled up; when the cicatrix is soon formed, and the cure complete. In wounds of THIS class, the first object is to ex-

tract any foreign or extraneous substance, and promote a good digestion; by which not only every degree of foulness is carried off, but the ragged and injured parts themselves putrefy and slough off, being brought away with the dressings so soon as the wound is in a healthy promising state. Here the granulations begin to form and sprout out; and a proportion of judgment is required, but little possessed or exerted upon these occasions; for instead of nourishing an appearance so much to be solicited (and without which you can obtain no cure) it is often most injudiciously mistaken for fungus, and scouted accordingly: instead of a bed of dry lint to soothe and encourage this effort of nature, caustics and escharotics are loudly called for, and plentifully bestowed; the very basis of cure is thus destroyed; the mouths of the vessels are imprudently closed by the worst means; the discharge contributing to the constant improvement is most unnaturally suppressed; and callosities or eschars follow of course.

Ignorance now becomes foiled with its own weapons, the operator standing bewildered in a labyrinth, from which he is in possession of no clue to escape. No day produces a change  
but

but for the worse; the wound is dressed, dressed, and DRESSED AGAIN! still *no sign* of relief, no favouring power presides, nor any prevailing GENIUS appears, but the predominant GENIUS of DULNESS, who, anxious to increase the “mischief she has made,” prompts him to finish with fortitude what he had commenced in stupidity! To confess the least degree of inability would be a degradation of dignity; therefore, on he goes (*Ranger* like) “NECK OR NOTHING!” strong digestives (and those *scalding* too) follow, but follow in vain. No improvement, no enlivening ray, longer to keep up the farce of professional infallibility: no lucky alternative but *mercury*, *vitriol*, and all the family of *fire* renewed, till the serious ceremony terminates in an inveterate ulcer, or confirmed fistula, as will be separately treated on under those heads,

There are certain wounds that occur much more frequently than any other; and though in themselves not at all dangerous, yet something may be expected upon a treatment proper to be adopted in cases that so constantly happen. Among these are *broken knees*, *over-reaches*, and *lacerations* between *hair* and *beef*. In respect  
to



to the first, it is a misfortune whenever it happens, that not only reduces the horse very much in his value, but is considered an indelible stigma of imperfection, that (with connoisseurs) renders him at first sight unworthy a second consideration. This being a circumstance universally understood and admitted, there is no doubt but every prudent man will think a certain PREVENTATIVE preferable to a doubtful cure, and admit the propriety of a short observation, without any unfair digression from the subject before us. Not indulging the shadow of fear, by *offending* the shallow EQUESTRIAN HEROES of ROTTEN-ROW, or the more expert and courageous, who (for once in their lives) have joined the royal chase; including that SET who reach London in an *hour* and *fifteen* minutes, “*All Lombard-street to an egg-shell!*” I will venture to affirm, that nineteen of every twenty are brought to the ground by unfair and most unmerciful usage.

For those doubtful compositions, whose heads are as light as the heels of their horses, and whose form, by the hurry of conception and ambiguity of generation, are destitute of the more  
noble

noble parts necessary to the power of reflecting, can form no idea of the strength of the animal they bestride; but each concluding his steed a Pegasus, formed of a substantial material called *labour everlasting*, and gifted with perpetual motion, they continue to ride or drive the oppressed object, till Nature being (after a thousand spirited exertions) at length quite exhausted, can move no farther. And I am convinced it requires no *uncommon share of penetration*; at least no *magical* assistance from BRÉSLAW, or his contemporaries, to discover so great a palpability as that all things certainly fall when, being deprived of support, they can stand no longer. From this trifling digression I infer (and enforce my opinion) that more horses are thrown down and irremediably injured by the carelessness and shameful inattention of bad riders on bad roads, and over rolling stones, or when they are more cruelly exhausted with labour and fatigue, than by any other means in the whole list of accidents.

From what cause soever this misfortune may arise, the *first step* to RELIEF will be still the same. Wash the parts well with a sponge and warm water, thoroughly cleansing the  
wounds

wounds or lacerations from every retention of gravel or sand; for these will evidently irritate and inflame the tender parts, and be productive of a discharge which may often be entirely prevented by gently wiping dry after the use of the sponge, and plentifully embrocating the parts with either of the liquids before mentioned, bandaging over a pledget of tow wet with the same, repeating it once or twice, if circumstances should render it necessary. This should be continued, that an eschar or cicatrix may be formed to render unctuous or greasy applications unnecessary; but should the wound or laceration be so violent as to produce great inflammation, *suppuration* must ensue, and ought to be encouraged: to this end apply a *poultice* of the ingredients before mentioned, and let the cure be afterwards performed by regular applications of the *stable digestive ointment*.

OVER-REACHES are the injuries sustained by the throwing in of the hind-toe upon the back part or heel of the fore-foot, in the hollow below the fetlock joint, and above the hoof. They are sometimes very violent, and subject to great discharges from the bruises and laceration

*lane* to the *tbill borfe* of the worst team in the parish), is destined to undergo the changes in treatment just described.

Thus the *wound*, that would in all probability have submitted to a degree of regular and consistent treatment, is retarded, or rather obstructed; in its natural progress and proper discharge, by means directly opposite to the dictates of reason and discretion. The application of a *corrosive* (that is generally made with a heavy hand of iron) instantly collapses the mouths of the finer vessels, and destroys the sprouting granulations of new flesh; Nature being thus checked, displays an evident change for the worse, and the DOCTOR is now (to make use of his own expressive language) “*out of the frying pan into the fire.*” By this new disappointment his indignation is excited against both *disease* and the *diseased*; in the fervour of his wrath he determines, as it won't submit to “fair means it shall to foul.” The whole body of *caustics* before mentioned become subservient to his purpose; and are so liberally poured in as to constitute so great a degree of callosity upon the surface, that a considerable length of time and portion  
of

HUMES, we proceed now to treat of both, when, by improper treatment, or bad habit, they are degenerated into ulcers.

## U L C E R S

ARE *wounds* or *abscesses* become inflexible either by an imprudent course of management, an indifferent habit, or an acrimonious disposition of the juices; but in general much more the effect of the former than either of the other two. It has been a practice with *barriers* of almost every denomination, upon a wound's not inclining to heal so soon as expected, to increase the strength of the digestive application, as if the very tendons were to be extracted. This effort of art not succeeding, is followed by a *corrosive*, that, increasing the evil, a *caustic* in general crowns the whole of *country practice*. The wound (that perhaps at first required only the necessary time for incarnation, and the most simple treatment) not having kept pace in its cure with the imagination or impatience of the DOCTOR (for so we all are from the *president* in *Warwick-*  
M lane

cipitate (very finely powdered), and let them be minutely incorporated upon a stone or marble slab.

So soon as this obstacle is perfectly removed, and the discharge comes to its proper *consistence*, dress in general with a small portion of lint, thinly covered with *either* of the *basilicons*, placed under a pledget of tow, spread with the *stable digestive* mentioned in the last article. Should the wound incarnate too fast, and fill with fungus (commonly called *proud flesh*), slightly touch such parts with a piece of *unstaked lime*, regulating the mode and application by the necessity, repeating it as occasion may require. When the cicatrix, or skinning over, is nearly accomplished, the cure may be completed by hardening the surface with a little *tincture of myrrh*.

This is the direct and rational MODE of CURE established in every kind of ulcer, as well as those originating in the cause already enlarged on; but where the obstacle to cure arises from some defect in the constitution, or acrimony in the fluids, the assistance of mercurial physic and subsequent course of mild alteratives

alteratives must be called in, to ensure effect from the whole. Without descending to a *particular formulæ* for this purpose alone, I refer the reader to a VARIETY (prescribed under the distinct heads of GREASE, SURFEIT, and FARCY), for such selection as may best coincide with his opinion upon the constitution and bodily state of the subject diseased.

It is a rule established in surgery, and should be in farriery, where there is a *sinus* or *cavity* leading to a remote or hidden cause of complaint, and from whence a palpable *discharge* issues, the course and depth should be accurately ascertained by the probe; and, if no tendinous parts present to forbid the operation, the *sinus*, *cavity*, or *vacuum*, should be instantly LAID OPEN (with a bistory) to its utmost extent, and properly filled with a pledget of lint, well impregnated with warm digestive, and plentifully covered with tow spread with the same. After a *second* or *third* dressing, should the *inside* of such cavity prove callous; or hard in substance, it must be taken away by the KNIFE, or destroyed by the means before described. If it be so situated that the parts forbid an entire separation, sound with the

M 3

probe,

probe, and at its extremity make a *counter incision* through the integuments to meet the probe, till by passing through, it removes any lodgment that may have been left for the matter to corrode, which it will very soon do, so as in many cases to affect the bone itself.

As a very good DETERGENT WASH for the cleansing inveterate ulcers, or injecting into such passages as from the disposition of the parts cannot be laid open, I have reason to recommend the following, it retaining every advantage without one of the prejudicial qualities so predominant in the mercurial and vitriolic compositions:

TAKE honey and vinegar each two ounces ;

Liquefy over the fire ; and when cool add tincture of myrrh and tincture of cantharides each one ounce.—Mix.

When the ulcer is by these means divested of its virulence and cadaverous smell, the callosity is sloughed off or extracted, and a favourable appearance of incarnation come on, the dressings may be changed from the *precipitate digestive*, before prescribed, to pledgets spread  
with



with *Locatellus's balsam*, or the following  
EPULOTIC CERATE:

TAKE of white diachylon plaster and olive oil, each  
two ounces ;

Locatellus's balsam, and balsam of capivi, each one  
ounce ;

Melt the plaster and Locatellus in the oil over the  
fire ; take off, and when nearly cool stir in the  
capivi, a little at a time, till it is all incorporated.

In short, cases of THIS kind come so frequently under the hands of the FARRIER, that little might have been thought necessary upon the subject: but I have been thus explicit, for the information and advantage of those who are STRANGERS to both THEORY and PRACTICE; that being “forewarned they may be forearmed,” and not suffer a simple accident to be gradually ripened to a serious misfortune ; but, availing themselves of this requisite instruction, so *destroy* the prevalence of MYSTERY and power of PREJUDICE, as to ensure a cure under their own superintendence upon a basis rational, clear, and comprehensive, divested of the folly of experiments and cruelty of ancient practice.

## F I S T U L A.

A FISTULA is the palpable consequence of general neglect in more instances than one ; first, in not perceiving the saddle's being too wide in the tree, and suffering the inside of the pummel to press so much as not only to pinch, but, by its constant friction, to bruise the parts, and render an imposthumation or formation of matter inevitable. I am very sorry to observe, this is *seldom taken notice of* in time, till the EVIL has been repeated, and constitutes bruise upon bruise, when an inflammation and swelling ensue, threatening an unavoidable suppuration. To this a still greater error succeeds ; for, during the time the process of Nature is going on, and the matter contained in the tumour is undergoing concoction, or change from inflammatory or grumous blood, and extravasated lymph, to its state of systematic perfection for discharge, (in general termed a proper degree of ripeness) strong *repellents* or powerful *spirituous compositions* are brought into constant use ; and, by their peculiar properties, from one universal OBSTACLE to the

great effort of NATURE for relief. Here begins a terrible *struggle* between the *contending powers* of NATURE and ART; for *those* applications failing in their intentional effect of repulsion upon the contents, distribute their properties upon the integuments, where, by their repeated application, an induration is effected very unfavourable to the abscess in its more advanced state. NATURE at last *effects* her purpose, the tumour is at length brought to suppurate, and a discharge comes on; but without one of those advantages that would have been acquired, had the efforts of Nature been attended to and properly encouraged, instead of opposed.

From this INCONSISTENT mode of treatment the edges of the wound, when enlarged, become unkind, the seat of a foul or callous complexion; and, instead of a substantial, favourable, healthy matter, the discharge is a *complication* of blood, sanies, and a kind of indurated half concocted matter, intermixed with an acrid or corrosive ichor.

This is in general the origin and progress of what (with additional bad treatment) constitutes

tutes a *confirmed fistula*, and comes directly under the very method of cure described in the last article; with renewed instruction, and remembrance to lay open all sinuses or cavities into which the probe can be passed, taking care to make no transverse opening across the withers to divide the ligament, but making the incisions longitudinal on either side or both, as occasion may require. Should the discharge continue sluggish or incomplete, *enlarge* the proportion of *turpentine* or *precipitate* in the ointment, adding an ounce of the *spirit of turpentine*, if the matter is very offensive; make also a considerable addition in the *tincture of myrrh* and *cantharides* to the DETERGENT LOTION before prescribed. When the applications are required to exert their digestive powers more effectually, in consequence of any particular languor upon the part, or deficiency in the discharge, let the ointment be applied with a degree of warmth sufficient to insinuate itself into the interstices or openings, but not so hot as to scald or harden the surface.

Incisions, or scarifications, must be made whenever necessary, and the callosities extirpated

pated exactly as before described; using neither corrosives or caustics, but adhering to the method of keeping down fungus, or excrescences, by the application of unslacked lime in the lump, (for a few minutes) or previously powdered, where the wound will not admit of its use in the other form. This method should have the preference on all occasions; for which a very predominant reason may be urged, that, receiving its power only from the moisture it imbibes from the part, it immediately performs the purpose it is intended to execute, and becomes directly inactive: whereas the favourite articles of *aqua fortis*, *oil of vitriol*, and *mercury*, not only absolutely CAUTERIZE or BURN all the part, but raise a great degree of *inflammation* upon the surrounding vessels, and evidently increase the mischief they were intended to prevent. The *detergent* WASH before mentioned, cannot be too frequently used till the wound bears marks of amendment; and care must be taken in the separation of all fistulous sinuses to leave the orifice or opening as much declining as possible, that the matter may naturally pass downwards, without being subject to a probability of retention.

Thus

Thus much by way of INSTRUCTION for CURING, what may mostly be prevented—by a very moderate share of care and attention, or, more properly speaking, an *exertion* of that reason, generally distinguished by the appellation of *common sense*. LET IT BE REMARKED, the frequent application of *repellents* is a palpable absurdity, unless in an early state of the swelling, before the vessels are sufficiently bruised and inflamed to eject the fluids that, becoming extravasated and stagnant, form the tumour; which being once accumulated, is too viscid in substance, and large in quantity, to be again rarefied and absorbed into the circulation. The swelling being too far advanced to admit a hope of repulsion, should be *promoted* by *softening poultices* (as will be particularized in the next class, under the discussion of TUMOURS); the course of suppuration will then go on in a natural way, the concoction will be perfect, and the discharge consequently effectual. Upon its first rupture or breaking, the orifice from which the matter oozes will be but trifling: this should be immediately enlarged, as much as is necessary, for the discharge and admission of applications. If in the usual method of insinuation a tent is

found at all necessary, NEVER let it by any means be too LONG continued, lest the parts, by a tedious separation, become divested of their disposition to unite, and the edges grow callous from their constant depression. The judgment may be much *assisted* upon this subject by frequent *references* to the two preceding articles of WOUNDS and ULCERS; remembering in all, after the necessary and proper discharges, to conduct the cure according to the variety of circumstances clearly pointed out in this and the subjects last treated on.

## P O L L E V I L.

ALTHOUGH this comes most probably under the unavoidable inspection, occasional dressings, and intentional cure, of the *operative farrier*, and consequently rather out of the line first drawn for the plan of this work; yet as the subject has been so infamously treated by an author before-quoted, that indignation becomes too justly excited to pass it over without such ANIMADVERSION as may tend to *enlighten the mind*, and *rectify the judgment* of such as (from absolute WANT of comprehension or reflection)

pay an implicit *obedience* to every *absurdity*, *folly*, or *falsehood*, sanctioned with the **AUTHORITY** of *the press*; and conceive a certain degree of infallibility appertains to whatever makes its appearance in print. That these are the sentiments of the lower class, is too well known to require corroboration; and I am induced to introduce a few **REMARKS** upon this subject by the inconsistent and unmerciful (not to add *infernal*) advice held forth to practice, in a *publication* that would alone entitle it to the **FLAMES** and perpetual **OBLIVION**.

We are there told “ *the poll evil* is an abscess  
“ near the poll of a horse, formed in the sinews  
“ between the noll bone and the uppermost  
“ vertebræ of the neck.” You are then instructed to scald with a compound of “ oil of  
“ turpentine, corrosive mercury, verdigrease,  
“ Roman vitriol, green copperas, and train  
“ oil:” these are to be poured “ **SCALDING**  
“ **HOT** into the wound, and stitched up for  
“ several days; and if matter flows in great  
“ abundance, and of a thin consistence, it must  
“ be scalded *again*,” &c. &c. This **IGNORANT** *unfeeling* attempt to arrest the judgment, and **IMPOSE** upon the understanding, is almost



too ridiculous to excite contempt; but, in compliment to the less informed *réader*, it is impossible to pass it over without branding the very thought with the epithet it is so justly entitled to.

What are we to think of the *professional knowledge* or *abilities* of an author, who could sanction with his NAME the recommendation of a practice so *infamous* and *detestable*, that no one rational or consistent idea can be produced or pleaded to prove its propriety! Will any advocate for such INFERNAL PRACTICE, (and infernal it certainly is in every meaning of the word) venture to affirm the writer conceived or possessed a competent, or even a tolerable knowledge of the structure of parts or property of medicine; that when the membranous system is locally injured, and the lacerated vessels rendered highly irritable, could venture to promulgate the consistency of glutting them with the most powerful POISONS, as if he felt some invincible *antipathy* to the species, and had attentively studied the most likely means of effecting their total extirpation! For the completion of this business, lest the most destructive *poisons* should prove ineffectual, you are in-

instructed to ADD fuel to their natural fire, by combining their whole force, and pouring them “*scalding hot*,” nearest to one of the most vital parts, (nay nearest the original nervous seat of pain), even the brain itself. Sorry I am to acknowledge this genuine and unadulterated specimen of the *immaculate* perfection of the “PRACTICAL TREATISE” has been repeatedly PUT IN PRACTICE by fools or knaves, whom ignorance has misled or confidence betrayed; to the evident destruction of numbers that have died in the most excruciating agonies, sinking under the load of accumulated misery and persecution, devoted victims to a system replete with the most unparalleled cruelty that the HEART could *dictate*, or the HAND *direct*.

Need I, can it be possibly necessary for me, to *point out* for the information of even the most superficial or least considerate *observer*, the destruction of parts that must inevitably ensue; no combination of nature can stand against this accumulation of cruelty and infliction of punishment. The finer vessels, the veins, arteries, muscles, nay the ossified structure or bony parts themselves, must nearly submit to this elaborate and studied work of devastation. The  
*humane*

*humane reader*, whose judgment is not biased, by prejudice, or his reason blinded by an adherence to custom, and whose feelings move in concert with my own, will *shudder* at the reflection; and to every sportsman looking with the eye of extreme pleasure upon the excellencies of the animal (whose sufferings I lament,) do I appeal for a justification of the warmth I have been naturally prompted to display on the occasion. And in PITY to a *species* so eminently entitled to every degree of MERCY, CARE, and ATTENTION, let us hope (as we are now become more reformed in our minds, and rectified in our judgments) that this DAMNABLE doctrine may be universally *exploded* and *buried* into ETERNAL OBLIVION.

Let it then be understood the *poll evil* originates in a *tumour* situate as before described; and generally proceeds from injuries sustained on that part by blows, bruises, or such frequent and excessive friction from large or heavy harness as may sufficiently irritate the part to provoke a formation of matter, as has been explained in the preceding article. If it is early observed, let the seat of pain be very frequently fomented with vinegar made warm, for at

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least

least a quarter of an hour, rubbing upon the part immediately after about an ounce of camphorated spirits of wine, and then bandaging over the part a double flannel dipped in the vinegar, warm as before.

Should the swelling refuse SUBMISSION to this treatment, after a regular perseverance for eight-and-forty hours, continuing to enlarge itself, and display invincible symptoms of maturation, make no farther attempt by REPELLENTS to oppose the progress of NATURE; such obstinacy will never prevail; therefore contribute your early and cheerful assistance to promote a speedy suppuration. For this purpose let the following *poultice* be immediately applied and repeated twice every day, till an aperture or opening is effected in the abscess.

TAKE of camomile flowers, turnips, and coarse bread, about equal quantities; boil the camomile and turnips in a sufficient quantity of water, till the latter are soft enough to bruise altogether; then stir in four ounces of white lily root, (beat to a paste in the mortar;) and, lastly, add, while hot, three or four ounces of lard, and two of common turpentine.

This application should be made as warm as the nature of the case will admit, that it may the better fulfil the intent of relaxing the vessels, increasing their circumference, and promoting the speedy flux of matter to this particular part. So soon as opening appears, let it be enlarged sufficiently to ensure a discharge, and prevent the retention of any improper portion of matter ; and continue to proceed with the cure according to the state of the case, collecting your informations from the variety of directions extensively given under the different head of *wounds, ulcers, fistula, and tumours* ; to the last of which we now proceed.

## C L A S S V

TUMOURS, WARBLER, NAVEL-  
GALLS, AND SITFASTS,

## T U M O U R S

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ARE of many and various kinds, according to their different causes and situations; as the œdematous, steatomous, encysted, and scrofulous; but as the separate and distinct explanations of these would lead the reader into *anatomical* disquisitions *foreign* to, and very far beyond, the *limits* prescribed for the completion of this work (which is intended for general comprehension), I shall make a cursory REMARK upon *each*, and proceed to a minute investigation of the SIMPLE TUMOUR coming so constantly under common observation and manage—

**m**anagement. The *œdematous* and *encysted* *tumours* are nearly synonymous, originating in **a** cyst or bag, containing a kind of ichorous **b**loody sanies, or galatinous fluid; which being **e**vacuated, the cyst does not always submit to **d**igestives or escharotics, but must be extir-  
**p**ated with the knife, and cured as a common **w**ound; for the completion of which, ample **D**IRECTIONS may be found in the preceding **c**lass under that head.

The **S**TEATOMOUS are those tumors that **f**orm on different parts, and pass in general **u**nder the denomination of wens, containing, **w**hen opened or extracted, a substance not un-  
**l**ike suet in its earliest state, when hardly cold: **n**either of the above are expected to submit to **a**ny topical application, unless upon the very **f**irst observation; when an attempt may be made by the most powerful *repellents*, specified in many of the preceding pages, and a small por-  
tion of the strongest *mercurial ointment* rubbed in every night, for a considerable length of time; but even to this there is no *hope* of *sub-*  
*mission*, unless in the first stage of its infancy; nor can any **R**ADICAL CURE be in general ob-

tained but by *instrumental* extirpation. As this must be unavoidably attended with loss of time, and a proportional share of danger, if seated upon or intersected by the muscular parts, perhaps it may be most prudent to omit the experiment and submit it to chance.

SCROFULOUS TUMOURS are such as originate in scorbutic or hereditary taints, and increase or diminish according to the state or acrimony of the blood ; they are therefore more than any of the others dependent upon external application, and particularly the *mercurial unguent* just before described, assisted by a course of *mercurial* or *antimonial* ALTERATIVES, as may be discretionally selected from the chapters on those subjects. As the mercurial ointment has been repeatedly recommended, it may not be inapplicable to introduce the mode of preparation ;

TAKE quicksilver two ounces ;

Lard six ounces ;

Balsam of sulphur half an ounce.

Rub the quicksilver with the balsam in a metal mortar till the globules disappear ; then add the lard by degrees, first made warm, and keep in a pot for use.

I now



I now proceed to the *explanation* of a SIMPLE TUMOUR, or ABSCESS, taken in its single view, as one effort of nature to relieve itself from the weight of an extravasated fluid collected, and (the cause being inflammatory) become too tenacious for transpiration through the cutaneous passages or pores of the skin, and too viscid to be again absorbed or taken into the circulation. This is the principle of action, whether proceeding from the grumous state of the blood obstructing the finer passages, accumulating and acting by its *stimulus* upon the irritable parts, or from an extravasation of fluid ejected from the veins or lymphatics, in consequence of laceration from bruises, or ruptures from strains. It has been a predominant and established practice to attempt repulsion, even after the decisive formation of matter, by the most powerful spirituous applications, thereby inflaming the integuments and indurating the contents; not without a very great probability of producing an *inveterate* ulcer, or *long-standing* fistula.

In all applications, whether external or internal, REASON will prove a very useful assistant; pay due *respect* to the INDICATION  
N 4 of

of NATURE, solicit the INTERPOSITION of REASON, and in conjunction they will be found most admirable *auxiliaries* to the judicious EXERTIONS of ART. All *tumours* (proceeding from what cause soever) tending to certain maturation should be expeditiously assisted with very warm *fomentations*, composed of *camomile*, *marshmallows*, *rosemary*, *lavender*, *wormwood*, *elder flowers*, or any two or three of the whole, the PROPERTIES of *stimulus* and *beat* being still the same, and to be effected by a part as well as the entire.

After each time of using the *fomentation*, apply a *poultice* of the suppurating kind ; selecting from the following articles such ingredients as may prove most applicable to the purpose :

Coarse bread, boiled turnips, pollard, or bran, camomile flowers, flour of mustard, white lily root, (beat to a paste) with an addition of turpentine, yellow basilicon, and lard sufficient to keep it moist.

These applications must be regularly continued till the pliability of the tumour, and the fluctuation of matter, prove it in a proper  
state

state for perforation. Let it then be carefully opened by a *superficial incision* sufficiently large to admit of such discharge as the size of the abscess may require ; dressing with the necessary introduction of *dossils of lint*, well impregnated with the following DIGESTIVE, and covered with a POULTICE of mild ingredients for a few days, to encourage the discharge and form a convenient bed or covering for the wound.

### STRONG DIGESTIVE.

TAKE bees wax three ounces ; turpentine, Burgundy pitch, and spirits of turpentine, each two ounces ; olive oil six ounces ; melt the wax and Burgundy pitch in the oil over a slow fire ; then take off and stir in the turpentine ; and, when nearly cool, add the spirit by degrees, and incorporate well.

The tents to be infinuated, furnished with a portion of THIS *unguent* moderately warm, and introduced no larger than will leave sufficient room to be placed in and extracted easily, thereby not impeding the incarnation. Should any fungus or proud flesh render it necessary, dress occasionally with the PRECIPITATE OINTMENT (under the article of wounds), and cover with a pledget of this STABLE DIGESTIVE,

TIVE, keeping your bandage always neat and firm, that the sides or edges may be encouraged in their disposition to unite or come into contact. So soon as the last stage of cure, the skinning over, is complete, immediately throw aside all greasy applications, and harden the surface first with equal parts of *tincture of myrrh* and *vinegar*; afterwards with *tincture of myrrh* alone. Should any eschar of consequence remain, and the hair not follow kindly, rub the part gently every night with a small quantity of *camphorated spermaceti ointment*, the best article known to promote the return of the hair upon the knees or any other part.

So much has been said, and so many instructions advanced, for the various dressings that may be found necessary, under the article of WOUNDS, ULCERS, FISTULA, POLL-EVIL, and TUMOURS, immediately succeeding each other, there cannot be (omitted) any thing more to add upon the subject; naturally concluding every PRACTITIONER or SUPERINTENDENT will *regulate* his applications and *vary* his dressings according to the state or disposition of the case before him.

W A R B L E S

## W A R B L E S

ARE those small swellings or tumours formed on the sides, or some part of the back of a horse, either by the excessive heat and friction in a long chase, the extreme pressure of some hard or protuberant part in the stuffing of the saddle, or the edge of a narrow saddle-cloth coming directly under the seat of the rider; and very frequently by the *cent per cent.* care and caution of the saddler, in the economical length of his girths; for, being sometimes by much too short, the buckles at either one side or the other sit below the pad; or what is still worse, half on and half off; by which means the lower corners of the buckles constitute this inconvenience to a certainty, as I have repeatedly experienced. But let them proceed from which of these causes they may, I shall in the cure pass over the SUBLIMITY of CAPT. BURDON's fertile invention of the "hot greasy dishclout." as unnecessary; also BARTLET's *fervility* and *sterility* in echoing so GREASY an idea; but as every extensive reader upon  
this

this subject must have observed “A Practical Treatise” may be compiled from GIBSON, BURDON, BRACKEN, and others, without coining a NEW THOUGHT, I shall forbear to animadvert upon the advantages of PLAGIARISM, and come to the proper treatment of the subject now before us; not omitting to observe how very difficult it may be to make it convenient in SOME COUNTRIES (and to SOME POCKETS) to boil a rump of beef or gammon of bacon, merely for the procurement of “a hot greasy dishclout” to effect the purpose: upon the force of this natural reflection, I relinquish the idea of enforcing so *difficult a process*, and shall endeavour to furnish such SUBSTITUTES as will certainly prove more efficacious and satisfactory.

So soon as the saddle is taken off, after a severe chase, or hard journey, a good groom or hostler will be very minute in his examinations to discover whether an injury has been sustained in this part or any other. He will instantly perceive, by the horse's wincing, whether there is any defect from which a warble may speedily ensue; if so, upon the first appearance, or earliest discovery, bathe

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three

three or four times a-day with the following  
**REPELLENT :**

TAKE extract of Saturn half an ounce ;  
 Camphorated spirits of wine two ounces ;  
 Soft water a quarter of a pint.

Mix the extract with the spirits, by shaking well together, and then add the water ; or if these cannot be easily procured just at the time, substitute, for the moment, of vinegar and brandy equal parts ; but the stronger must be obtained so soon as possible, and persevered in till the tumour is dispelled.

The original cause of the warble must be likewise discovered and removed, to prevent a repetition upon the same part, from which, or the continuation, a SITFAST will inevitably ensue.

## N A V E L G A L L S

ARE, in the first instance, *tumours* formed upon the *vertebræ* or *spine*, and caused by a deficiency (or scarcity of stuffing on each side the pad) at the back part of the saddle : which, letting the tree come into close contact with the back-bone, the parts become bruised by the severe pressure and constant friction; an inflammation

Inflammation succeeds, and produces a swelling of the encysted kind, containing a gelatinous fluid, which, if not treated with frequent repetitions of the following repellent lotions, upon the earliest discovery, will not submit to this mode of application.

TAKE Mindererus's spirit,  
Camphorated spirits,  
Common brandy,  
And verjuice or best vinegar, of each equal parts.

Or,

TAKE sal armoniac three drachms ;  
Distilled vinegar four ounces ;  
British brandy half a gill.—Mix.

Should these fail of success, the evacuation must be solicited by gentle emollients, as warm *fomentations* (before described) and softening *poultices*. Upon its arriving at a proper degree of maturity, let the necessary incision be made superficially (not in the style recommended by GIBSON, of “cutting down to the quick”), and the cyst or bag, extracted with its contents, if EASILY practicable: if not, the present extraction (mentioned by some as necessary) is in fact superfluous and nugatory; as it becomes



immediately extraneous, and of course putrifies and sloughs off with the dressings. After all the various instructions laid down for the different applications, under a multiplicity of preceding articles, forming a regular chain of connexion, any farther addition must be unnecessary, ONE hint only excepted, viz. in the treatment of any, or all, where the vacuums are large, and the discharge sluggish, from the mouths of the vessels being plugged by a viscosity of the matter; or thin and ichorous, from a languor and coldness of the parts, a frequent use of the following DETERGENT will both cleanse and stimulate, so as to remove the obstruction in the first instance, and promote a proper discharge in the other :

TAKE of white vitriol and sugar of lead each three drachms ;

Spring water half a pint ;

Tincture of myrrh one ounce.—Mix.

And in all cases, where the fungus or proud flesh does not *submit* to the *precipitate ointment*, Pledgets of dry lint under the digestives, or applications of the above lotion, a small portion of the *red precipitate*, white or blue vitriol  
(very

(very finely powdered), must be occasionally sprinkled over the excrescence, but not with the usual hand of indiscretion, otherwise your corrosive in that case becomes a *caustic*; a callosity is consequently occasioned, and your imprudent and misapplied remedy becomes worse than the disease.

## A S I T F A S T

Is the integument or hide of a horse become entirely callous or insensible, after the tumour called a WARBLE is repelled and taken up into the circulation, or has transpired in a natural evacuation or circular oozing, surrounding the callosity termed a SITFAST. In some little time the hair comes off, and it bears the appearance of a foreign solid substance, fixed in the centre of what seems to be a superficial wound. For this simple and very trifling complaint there is but one certain and expeditious cure. All applications to soften the eschar will prove of no utility; *scarifications* will be tedious, and often ineffectual.

**F**ectual; to prevent therefore a loss of time by such fruitless attempts, let it be clearly and finally understood it can be effected only by **EXTIRPATION**; an operation so very trifling it will not admit of a moment's hesitation, and may be taken off with a common penknife, and healed as a superficial wound. But the most ready and least painful method of taking it off is by just raising either edge till it can be taken hold of with a pair of common pincers; when, by leaning them to any side, you have an immediate fulcrum, or lever, and separate it instantaneously without pain or inconvenience. After the extirpation it may be treated as a simple superficial laceration, and may in general be healed by a frequent application of *Friar's balsam, tincture of myrrh*, or, in very trifling cases, with a little common brandy.

But after the cure, care should always be taken to guard the cicatrix in its infancy, and prevent the buckle of the girth from coming into direct contact with the injured part, not only till the surface is sufficiently hardened to render a repetition unlikely, but upon all  
O future

future occasions. And here it cannot prove inapplicable to remind every *horseman*, ~~the~~ buckle of the girth should *never* be permitted below the pad of the saddle on either side; a circumstance that never occurs with experienced *sportsmen*, who well know, from the extreme pressure, and constant friction of so sharp a body upon the integuments in hard chases, or long journies, *warbles* or *sitfasts* must inevitably ensue.

CLASS

## C L A S S VI.

**COLDS, COUGHS, PLEURISY,  
INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS,  
BROKEN WIND, AND CON-  
SUMPTION.**

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### C O L D S

**ARE** a species of disease not only acquired by different means, but likewise very different in their effects ; both which we shall endeavour to elucidate in a manner much more extensive and satisfactory than any that have gone before us. **COLDS** are in general more frequently the effect of neglect than chance, and are mostly acquired by the *stupidity* or *inattention* of those to whose care the *horse* is unavoidably intrusted. The various means by which colds are caught, in either man or beast, we naturally suppose to be so well understood, that a

minute investigator of the operations of nature would conclude any explanation upon this subject entirely superfluous. But as there doubtless are many juvenile sportsmen, who, in the very zenith of sublunary enjoyment and constant pursuit of pleasure, never afforded the subject a moment's consideration, I shall point out such CAUSES as are most likely to produce the variety of effects we shall afterwards proceed to explain.

When a HORSE, after being rode hard, and in a high state of perspiration, is suffered to stand still, (particularly in the winter season, or in bad weather) to drink cold water in this state; placed in an open stable in such situation; left after a wet and dirty journey to dry in that condition; or his clothing left off at an improper season; it is very natural to conclude the *groom* is a KNAVE, the *hostler* a FOOL, or the *master* a MADMAN. And although these circumstances seem little likely to occur by the frailty of one, or the folly of the other, yet the experienced sportsman and traveller, who seldom move without the eye of observation, will convince you they (among  
 7 a variety

a variety of additional impositions) happen every day. Having here obliquely remarked what I naturally conclude is almost universally known, I shall be studiously anxious to explain the nature of colds, and their different effects, so as to urge the necessity of their being perfectly understood, that prevention in future may become an object of attention.

The process of Nature we allude to, in the appellation of COLD, is a general obstruction of the cutaneous passages or pores of the skin, formed for the transpiration of perspirable matter, proportionally emitted from every part of the frame, and intended to expel that superfluous moisture by an almost insensible evacuation. But this exertion of Nature being totally suppressed, by a sudden collapse, or closing of the pores, from one of the causes before described, the perspirable matter is prevented in its natural course, and returned upon the body in a preternatural and morbid state.

We now come to the mischievous effect, according to the degree of inveteracy or infection of the attack. The most penetrating and acrimonious particles immediately make their  
O 3 passage

passage to the blood vessels ; and, intermixing with the mass, produce different degrees of disease, acting differently upon different subjects ; the injury sustained being in some respects regulated by the degree of heat or perspiration the horse was in at the time of being exposed to the original cause. This circumstance, once collected, upon the foundation of such inquiries, some idea may be formed of its probable duration and severity. The effects of cold are not only soon discovered where there is a constant attention and care, but an observation may be very early made to what part it more immediately directs its attack. For instance, if the nervous system is the most irritable, you speedily perceive it in the EYES ; if the glandular, upon the NECK, THROAT, under the EARS, or in the HEAD ; if more particularly upon the blood (in which both the vessels and their contents are concerned), the whole system of circulation being affected, you soon discover its seat to be taken upon the LUNGS ; and will perceive it displayed more or less in a COUGH, or difficulty of breathing, according to the severity of attack, from the proportion of perspirable matter repelled (become morbid), and compulsively absorbed into the circulation.

So



So soon as the horse is in this state a symptomatic fever attends, which is to be understood no more than a degree of febrile heat, or irritability dependent on the original cause, which gradually ceases as the primary disease is found to decline.

The blood in all these instances becomes languid and enfeebled by its increase and incumbrance, whilst its velocity is preternaturally compelled in the stricture of the vessels, upon their over-accumulated contents, which palpably constitute the obstruction and produce the fever. Having traced the very principle of colds to their original cause, and pointed out their different effects upon the *eyes, glands, lungs, and circulation*, I shall proceed first to that kind of cold fixed on the lungs, distinguished by COUGH, and its consequences, enlarging upon the other two, when we come to treat on their separate classes, under the disorders of the eyes and strangles, or tumours upon the glands. I shall therefore take this complaint in its first stage, when it is early discovered by an industrious servant or attentive master, and generally submits to

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immediate

immediate cure and simple remedies ; particularly if proper respect is paid to the excellent maxim of “ never letting alone till to-morrow what may be done to-day ;” for blood should be instantly taken away according to symptoms, size, state, and condition. Be accurate in quantity, and preserve it a few hours to ascertain its state ; if lived, or black, with a coat of size upon its surface, you have evident demonstration of its VISCIDITY and obstructed circulation through the finer vessels of the LUNGS. In three or four hours after bleeding, give a mash of bran and oats equal parts, upon which pour boiling water sufficient ; then stir in *unadulterated* aniseed and liquorice powders each one ounce, and of honey four. In two hours after the mash, give a gallon or six quarts of soft water moderately warm, in which have been dissolved two ounces of NITRE. Let the mashes be continued every night and morning, giving a moderate feed of dry oats in the middle of the day, good sweet hay in small quantities, and the same proportion of *nitre* to be repeated in the water after each mash. To these must be added the necessary regulations of GOOD dressing  
and

and GENTLE exercise, which in general soon effect the cure of such COLDS as are counteracted upon the first attack.



On the contrary, should time or circumstances have prevented those early advantages, the attack has been neglected, and the disorder made a rapid progress; should the COUGH be *violent* and constant, the horse very dull and *heavy*, declining his food, and the symptomatic fever run high, the blood will consequently prove as before described. In such case the symptoms will perhaps not immediately submit to the above plan so soon as may be wished or expected, therefore repeat your *bleeding* in two or three days at farthest, according to the state and necessity, altering the *mashes* to equal parts of *malt* and *bran*, scalded with boiling water; when nearly cool enough for the manger, stir in of *elecampane*, *aniseed*, and *liquorice* powders, each one ounce; let this be repeated every night and morning, continuing the noon-feed dry, and the *nitre* two ounces in the water, as before directed.

Let it be remembered, for consolation, that COLDS or COUGHS thus treated, before they have

have been suffered by neglect or penury to become obdurate by long standing, generally submit to a very short course of trouble or expence; whilst tardiness in procuring expeditious relief is often productive of events that no future assiduity can relieve. By immediate *bleeding* the obstruction is consequently reduced, and the circulation promoted; rarefaction is effected, and the stricture upon the vessels removed by the warm mashes and cordials; the irritating mucus engendered by the inflamed glands is likewise divested of its acrimony, and the pressure upon the lungs reduced by relaxing and lessening the contents of the body. Under these advantages you are eased of the complaint almost immediately, or a critical discharge comes on at the nostrils, and terminates in a few days, what neglected soon constitutes a confirmed COUGH, ASTHMA, BROKEN WIND, OR CONSUMPTION.

In respect to these disorders, their descriptions (or rather the different conjectures) have been so extended, turned, twisted, and mutilated, in their transmissions from one *author* to *another*, that it is natural to suppose no true state of either could be ascertained, or any thing satisfactory advanced upon the subject.

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We have the authority of a century past to prove they are caused by “the impetuosity of the blood’s rushing into the lungs,” *or*, “in the air vessels,” *or*, “in blood vessels,” *or*, “in tubercles or in ulcers,” *or*, “in too full feeding,” &c. BARTLET quotes from GIBSON, who refers you to MARKHAM, or SOLLEYSELL, and BRACKEN to BURDON, and so on *ad infinitum*. We are likewise told “the three last distempers are in general incurable:” you are then instructed to proceed with mercurial physic, giving, in the intermediate days, the “cinnaber balls; if they fail try alterative purges; to these follow cordial balls, with balsams of Peru and sulphur, flowers of Benjamin, squills, tar, &c. one to be continued a week or ten days, another a fortnight, and a third for two months *or longer*.” When having made this hopeful and *expensive* tour through almost all the MATERIA MEDICA to cure what is “in general incurable,” you may enjoy the pleasing sensation of knocking your horse on the head, and most feelingly acknowledge “the remedy worse than the disease.”

I shall endeavour to avoid this beaten track of duplicity, and not amuse my readers in every

every page with "GIBSON directs this," or "BARTLET the other," but communicate some instructions from the dictates of NATURE AND REASON, who have been hitherto most infamously treated, and most shamefully abandoned through every system of equestrian medical practice. In conjunction with this, it may not be inapplicable to introduce a few observations respecting the mode of administration I have long since adopted, and endeavoured to strengthen upon every opportunity. For instance, to condemn and explode upon every possible occasion the old and flowenly method of giving medicines of almost every kind in DRINKS, and the equally favourite administration of GLYSTERS, where they can by any means be avoided, (which forty-nine times out of fifty they very well may); always preferring their incorporation with a *mash*, or the contents in a *ball*, where circumstances will permit;

But this plan generally meets opposition from the VULCANIAN ADVOCATES for ancient practice, who would as soon relinquish their leathern aprons as their opinions. The prodigious and consequential ceremony of providing

viding the *ale*, *powders*, *twitch*, *horn*, and *apparatus*, with the additional pleasure of wasting or spilling half the contents, are professional **DIGNITIES** not to be readily given up; more particularly the *operator's* privilege of drinking a part of the *ale* or *strong beer*, to be perfectly convinced it is not **TOO STALE** for the purpose. To bring this digression to a speedy crisis, I shall only beg leave to add, that twenty years since, observing the general plague in giving drinks, the constant and unavoidable waste in the operation, added to the palpable absurdity of giving the most nauseous medicines in a liquid form, to constitute an unnecessary sickness to the animal, made me reject the practice, determining to adopt a method more rational, neat, and consistent, so far as my own advice or influence extended. To this circumstance may be attributed the very few drinks prescribed or recommended in the course of this work: the awkward administration of glysters is likewise rejected, but where they are palpably necessary, and even then the bag and pipe should be the vehicle for injection; the *syringe* being an invention of absolute absurdity, and fit only for such practitioners

tioners as are professed advocates for **FUNDAMENTAL ELECTRICITY.**

We come immediately from this digression to the treatment of obstinate coughs, of which there are two distinct kinds in effect, though proceeding from the very same cause; whether the result of neglect at the original attack, or inflexibility and non-submission to the mode of practice before recommended, and regularly persevered in. The one may be considered a loose and almost continual cough, increasing to violence upon the least motion, whilst the distinction is easily made by attending to symptoms: the other is a short dry cough, preceded by a husky hollow kind of wheezing, as if respiration was shortened or obstructed by fragments of *hay* or *corn* retained in the passage. This is the kind of cough called *asthma* by those writers who have preceded us, and for which *mercurial* purges have been recommended, and may perhaps come forward with more propriety after the administration of a course of the following balls, should they fail in the desired effect. **BLEEDING** must be first performed, and occasionally repeated in small quantities, till the glandular inflammation



mation and irritability is reduced, and the blood is so attenuated or divested of its viscosity, by the constant and invariable repetition of the *nitre*, that the circulation may be more freely promoted through the finer vessels of the lungs; as from the obstructions in those finer passages all the difficulties proceed. *Bleeding* having been performed with the necessary circumspection as to quantity, let your two ounces of *nitre* be given without the most trifling remission, every night and morning in the water, as particularised in the first stage of the disorder, continuing one of the following balls every morning for a fortnight or three weeks, that a fair and decisive trial may be obtained.

### DETERGENT PECTORAL BALL.

TAKE of Castile soap, aniseed, and liquorice powders,  
each five ounces;

Barbadoes tar six ounces :

Gum ammoniacum three ounces ;

Balsam of Tolu one ounce ;

Honey (if required) to make a mass ; which divide  
into a dozen balls.

If the complaint should continue predominant in all its symptoms, notwithstanding these efforts

efforts to relieve, BLEEDING must be repeated; two doses of *mercurial* physic may be given eight days apart, and prepared by the addition of a drachm and a half of calomel to either of the balls (under the articles of purging) best calculated for the horse's strength and condition. After which repeat the above pectoral balls, with the addition of gum myrrh, Benjamin, and Venice turpentine, each two ounces; dividing the mass into balls of two ounces each, repeating them every morning till the above proportion (with these additions) are totally consumed.

The long loud hollow COUGH that is almost incessant, and continually increasing upon MOTION or the least hurry in exercise, proceeds equally from irritability and the action of the slimy mucus upon the glands in respiration, as well as the viscosity and cohesion of the blood through the inner passages. This kind of cough I have ever observed to submit with much less difficulty than the ASTHMATIC, requiring only steady and regular perseverance in the plan now laid down to obtain a certain, and, in all probability, a speedy cure. The improvement upon the *cordial ball* of BRACKEN, (so rigidly

adhered to by all those advocates incapable of leaving the beaten track, or judging for themselves) will be cheerfully acknowledged by every judicious and impartial observer, who will readily coincide with me in rejecting the *brimstone*, *turmeric*, and *sugarcandy*, as articles very little adequate to the task they were assigned. In this case, as in the other, *bleeding* must take the lead, followed by a mash compounded of equal parts of *bran* and *oats*, into which must be stirred and dissolved, while hot, *honey* four ounces; and this repeated every night, with the two ounces of *nitre* in the water, (as repeatedly directed) without intermission, every night and morning.

## PECTORAL CORDIAL BALL.

TAKE Turkey figs, Spanish liquorice, aniseed, and liquorice powders, each four ounces;

Carraway seeds, elecampane, and anisated balsam, each two ounces;

Saffron, ginger (in powder), and oil of aniseed, each six drachms;

Honey sufficient to form the mass; and divide into twelve balls; of which let one be given every morning.

The figs and saffron are to be beat to a paste in the mortar, previous to their incorporation with

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the other articles ; the Spanish liquorice is softened over the fire, by boiling in a quantity of spring water, and the whole of ingredients mixed in a manner well understood by those generally concerned in such preparations. These balls are powerfully *cordial restorative*; they promote glandular excretion, warm and stimulate the stomach to the expulsion of wind, enliven the circulation, and vigorate the whole frame, as has been sufficiently ascertained by their instantaneous effect in the chase, where their excellence has been repeatedly established; but more particularly in deep swampy countries, when, after a *sear* or a repetition of *strong leaps*, the horse has been so off his wind, or, in fact, Nature exhausted, as not to be able to proceed a step farther; the immediate administration of a SINGLE BALL has not only afforded instant relief, but the horse gone through the day with his usual alacrity. To say precisely in what time the cure will be complete, is absolutely impossible; the treatment here laid down, and the class of medicines prescribed, will, with care and proper attention, perform all that can be expected from warm cordial pectorals.

## PLEURIS

## PLEURISY AND INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

To avoid those unnecessary distinctions generally made to swell the work, as well as the tedious repetitions introduced to form a plausible but FALLACIOUS difference between diseases bearing the strictest affinity, (not only originating in the same cause, but depending on the very same treatment for cure) I shall, in this class, proceed to the necessary observations upon what is termed PLEURISY, INFLAMMATION of the LUNGS, BROKEN WIND, and, lastly, CONSUMPTION. The gradations or circumstances of connexion are so regular from a *simple cold*, in the first instance, to the disagreeable effects of the latter, as to form a sufficient reason for bringing the whole into rational investigation.

To steer clear of the trammels of imitation, I must avoid the beaten track of BARTLET, who tells you, “ GIBSON says the *pleurisy*  
P 2 “ is

“ is an inflammation of the *pleura* ;” but, as “ no ghost need come from the grave “ to tell us that,” we will go a little farther, and, instead of diversifying and mutilating the symptoms to form a deceptive appearance of two distinct diseases, I shall clearly prove them to be not only of the *same family*, but very *nearly* related ; for, as the *pleura* is in the medical world universally known to be the membrane immediately covering the *lungs*, every reader may instantly form his own judgment whether the latter can become the principal seat of inflammation without the *pleura*’s being proportionally affected by the distension. I have not the least doubt but this *thesis* will sufficiently establish its own weight, to prevent a diversity of opinions.

To exclude occasion for more medical or anatomical definitions than are absolutely unavoidable, it must suffice to say, the distinction between the diseases are too nice (in this animal) for certain discriminations ; *either* displays symptoms common to *both* ; and, as the treatment is exactly similar in *each*, no inconvenience can arise from not decisively fixing it upon *one* or the *other*, as in general they are  
*both*

*both* affected. I shall, in treating of both, enumerate the certain prognostics; but cannot so far attempt an imposition upon the judgment as to form a string of *imaginary* symptoms, and say (as some have done) that “he looks “to the *right* with the *pleurisy*, and to the “*left* with the *peripneumony*; that he *tries* to “lay down, then he *starts* up;” and a multiplicity of *certainties equally curious*. But as MEN or WOMEN, labouring under the most acute diseases, do not display the *same* attitudes, or indulge in the *same* positions, no more do the different animals of which we now treat; but there are other predominant symptoms, and certain prognostics, that sufficiently enable us to ascertain the seat of disease, particularly in the inflammatory disorders before us.

For instance—the horse is exceedingly dull, heavy in the eyes, drops his head, is restless, perpetually shifting his legs alternately; the fever comes on suddenly, and increases rapidly; his breathing is extremely difficult, the cough short and laboured, exciting great pain. The mouth at first is parched and dry; but when a critical discharge issues from the

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nostrils,

nostrils, in consequence of a reduction of the symptomatic inflammation upon the glands of the head and throat, a slimy moisture appears in the mouth likewise; his whole frame bearing evident proofs of universal oppression, that seriously indicate the necessity of expeditious relief,

Having taken a concise but accurate view of the distemper in its external appearance, it becomes immediately necessary to go out of the *usual track*, and explain the *cause* as well as the *symptoms* of disease. As the LUNGS are known to emit in health a greater proportion of perspirable matter for transpiration than any other part, it consequently follows that, upon either a partial or universal obstruction or suppression, they become (by the compulsive absorption of that *very proportion*) the immediate seat of disease; and, where the blood is previously viscid, or in an indifferent state, its tendency to inflammation is *instantly* promoted by the morbidity of the obstructed perspirable matter, which being thrown back upon the *lungs*, they are so overloaded as to be rendered incapable of performing their function, and passing it into the circulation: inflamma —



tion is then produced ; which, according to the nature of the case and certainty of circumstances, must terminate in suffocation, if suffered long to continue its progress, without effectual attempts to relieve *Nature* from the burthen she has accumulated. This disease may also be produced by violent exercise upon the *turf*, or exertion in the *field*, when the increased rapidity of circulation (by the action of the solids upon their contents), propels the blood to the smaller passages with so great a degree of velocity as not only to produce immediate inflammation, but sometimes to rupture some of the finer vessels, from which BROKEN WIND OR CONSUMPTION frequently proceeds,

A sufficient quantity of blood must be *instantly* taken away, to unload the vessels as much as the strength will bear. After this operation, have ready some bran and very sweet hay cut small, and scalded together, which place *hot* in the manger, that the FUMES may be imbibed as an internal fomentation, to relax the rigidity of the glands, and excite a discharge from the nostrils so soon as possible. The very nature of this case, and the danger to which the horse is exposed, suf-

ficiently point out the propriety and consistency of exerting all possible alacrity to obtain relief, or counteract the disease in its *first stage*; therefore let the fumigation of scalded bran and hay be repeated every four or five hours, and the following decoction prepared without delay:

TAKE pearl barley, rasins split, and Turkey figs sliced,  
each six ounces;

Stick liquorice bruised, two ounces;

Boil in a gallon of water till reduced to three quarts;  
strain off; and, while hot, stir in one pound of  
honey, and, when cold, a pint of distilled vinegar;  
giving an ounce of nitre in a pint of this decoction  
every four, five, or six hours, according to the  
state and inveteracy of disease.

If relief is not obtained so soon as expected, and the horse is costive, give a glyster, with

Two quarts of common gruel;

Coarse sugar six ounces;

Glauber salts four ounces;

Tincture of jalap two ounces;

And a quarter of a pint of olive oil.

This must be repeated in twenty-four hours, or oftner  
if necessary.

Should

Should (notwithstanding these efforts to relieve) the symptoms continue equally predominant and alarming, not displaying the least tendency to submission, after waiting a proper time for the desirable effect of previous administrations, let the *bleeding* be repeated, and that in quantity proportioned to the necessity or severity of symptoms, continuing the decoction and nitre every three or four hours, repeating the *glyster*, if plentiful evacuations have not been obtained by the former injection.

The *diluting drink*, before prescribed, is introduced here in preference to a ball, that its medicinal efficacy may be expeditiously conveyed to the seat of disease. So soon as the wished-for advantages are observed, and the predominant and dangerous symptoms begin to subside, when he labours less in *respiration*, is *brisker* in appearance, *heaves* less in the flank, *dungs frequently*, *stales freely*, *runs* at the nose, *eats* his warm mashes of scalded bran, with four ounces of honey to each, and will *drink* thin gruel for his common drink (in each draught of which should be dissolved two ounces of *cream of tartar*); in short, so soon

as every appearance of DANGER is dispelled, the management may be regulated in every particular by the instructions given under the article of COLD, in its earliest stage; giving *one* of the following *balls* every morning for a fortnight, leaving off the mashes and diluting drink by degrees; varying the mode of treatment as circumstances may dictate, or occasion may require.

TAKE Castile soap six ounces;

Gum ammoniacum two ounces;

Annise and cummin seeds (in powder) each four ounces;

Honey sufficient to form the mass, which divide into a dozen balls.

To prevent any ill effects that may arise from the viscosity of matter that has so long overloaded the vessels of the lungs, or its acrimony, that may, by its retention there, so corrode or lacerate as to form an *ulcer*, or promote the growth of *knots* or *tubercles*, the best method will be, so soon as the horse (with great care, gentle exercise, moderate and regular feeding) has acquired a tolerable proportion of his natural strength, to put him upon the following gentle course of *physic*. And it will

will become more immediately necessary, where the horse bears about him remnants of the distemper, either in a *gleet* from the *nose*, *rattling* in his *throat*, difficulty of *breathing*, or *beaving* in the *flanks*.

TAKE succotrine aloes nine drachms ;

Rhubarb and jalap each a drachm and a half ;

Gum ammoniacum, calomel, and ginger, each a drachm ;

Oil of juniper sixty drops ;

Syrup of buckthorn sufficient to make a ball.

Six clear days or more, if the horse is weak, should be allowed between each dose, and the mode of management regulated by the instructions given under the article purging.

## BROKEN WIND,

Is a defect in the part of which we last treated, so that the transition from one to the other is both quick and natural; and sorry I am to acknowledge, that, amidst all the dissections and minute investigations that have  
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taken place, no IMPROVEMENTS or DISCOVERIES have been made that can at all elucidate to *a certainty* the opinions long since gone forth and communicated upon this subject. The most eminent writers, as if determined in this particular to let us remain in “darkness visible,” tell no more than that all their *strict inquiries*, all their *attentive assiduity* and *inspection*, will furnish them with no better information than “they BELIEVE or SUSPECT the lungs, by some means, are too large for the cavity of the chest, or the chest too narrow for the lungs.” If this curious HYPOTHESIS can be once admitted, the preternatural enlargement of the lungs is, by such reasoning, confirmed a *paradoxical natural deformity*. An attempt to establish so frail an idea would be ridiculous in the extreme; for horses are in general so little seen with external deformities, that it would be a palpable proof of *sterility in intellect* to suppose a constant and invariable deformity upon *any* part of the *viscera*; particularly upon the same in every horse labouring under this defect, and the very part so immediately necessary to all the offices in life. It is an opinion I shall never accede to, but am inclined to believe, by examining

examining the matter a little *more attentively*, two very probable reasons may be adduced, tending to lead us to a much more RATIONAL opinion of the cause.

For instance, whether horses who have been in the habit of *full* or *joul* feeding, with a very trifling portion of exercise, and without any internal cleansing from evacuations, compulsively obtained by *purgatives* or *diuretics*, may not constantly engender a quantity of *viscid, tough, phlegmatic* matter-; which accumulating by slow degrees may so clog and fill up some of that infinity of minute passages with which the *lungs* are known to abound, as probably to obstruct the air vessels in their necessary expansion for the office of respiration. And whether this very probable obstruction, or partial suppression, may not in sudden, hasty, and long continued exertions, rupture others, and by such local deficiency affect the *elasticity* of the *whole*? The probability, and indeed great appearance of this progress, has ever influenced me most forcibly to believe that such obstructions *once* formed, the evil accumulates, till a multiplicity of the vessels become impervious, and render the *lungs*, by their constant

stant accumulation and distention, too rigid for the great and necessary purpose of respiration.

How far this probable system of obstruction may come into immediate contact with the judgment of others, I am yet to learn; the conjecture naturally arising from a serious and attentive investigation of the case, is submitted to public opinion, as a far more rational mode of explanation than to TRUMPET OR RE-ECHO an absurdity, that “the lungs are too large for the chest,” or a still greater, that “*foul feed*—“ has made the lungs *fat*,” when a survey of the subject shall instantly demonstrate the *carcase* to be evidently POOR.

Whichsoever conjecture may be right respecting the *cause*, one opinion is universal upon the *cure*, if it originates in a natural deformity; for, should (according to the credulity of former writers) “the lungs be too large for the chest,” or, “the chest too narrow for the lungs,” the effect being directly the same, it is not in the power of art to furnish a cure; the expence to obtain it being therefore superfluous, it had better be avoided. That such a defect



defect may *sometimes* occur, as a chest *too narrow* for *lungs* of an uncommon extension, that constitute naturally what are called thick-winded horses, cannot be denied; and in those cases very little is to be expected from a hope of mitigation or cure.

It cannot but be observed what an anxious desire a BROKEN-WINDED horse always displays to obtain *water*—a self-evident conviction he is rendered uneasy by some glutinous adhesive internal substance, that instinct alone prompts the animal to expect drinking may wash away: on the contrary, if, as BARTLET and GIBSON suppose, “the lungs are too large for the chest,” every thing that increases the bulk of the *abdomen* or *viscera* (and consequently the pressure upon the *diaphragm*) must increase the disquietude, which is natural to believe, from the sagacity of animals in *other* instances, they would in *this* most carefully avoid.

If my HYPOTHESIS is founded in fact, (which circumstances will not allow me the least reason to doubt) a cure may certainly be expected, provided the attempt is made upon the  
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the dawn of the disease; but I will by no means admit the *probability* where the original cause has been of long standing, and no attempts made to relieve. A little deliberation will convince every reader, that a cure can originate only in such administrations or class of medicines as are evidently calculated in their operations or effects to reach, cleanse, and remove, obstructions in the *very remote* seat of disease.

BLEEDING naturally arises out of this observation, and must be repeated at proper intervals, in moderate quantities, till divested of the coat of size and livid appearance, that are certain prognostics when the *lungs* are obstructed either by *viscosity* or *inflammation*. To promote the necessary evacuations in the first instance, to attenuate the viscosity of the glutinous obstructed matter, and to deterge the passages by a stimulation of the solids, are the only foundations upon which the hope or probability of a cure may be formed; therefore after bleeding, go through a regular course of the mild purging balls (prescribed after the horse's recovery from the article last treated on); they are slightly impregnated with *mercury*.

*curial* particles, and blended with the gums, form a most excellent medicine for the purpose. In three days after the operation of the third dose, begin upon the following *detergent balsamics*, and continue to give one ball every morning, so long as may be thought necessary, to form a fair opinion whether the advantage is gained or relief likely to be obtained.

TAKE of the best white soap eight ounces ;

Gums guaiacum and ammoniacum each three ounces ;

Myrrh and Benjamin, aniseed and liquorice, each two ounces ;

Balsam of Peru, Tolu, and oil of aniseed, each half an ounce ;

Barbadoes tar sufficient to make a mass, which divide into twenty balls.

It is necessary to be strictly observed, that during this course, *hay* and *water* are to be dispensed with a very sparing hand, so as to prevent too great an accumulation in the *stomach* or *intestines*, that an observation may be made with the greatest certainty, whether any hopes of success from medicine may be justly entertained; if not, farther expence will be unadvisable, as it will appear, after such

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trial,

trial, an *incurable* malady at all events. ~~The~~ better to reconcile us to which, such ~~PAL-~~ LIATIVES may be occasionally put into use as will naturally be suggested by an attentive perusal of this class, in which the diseases of the *lungs* are the principal objects of investigation.

At all events, when a cough is become of long standing, or the horse perceived to labour under any of those wheezings in exercise, or violent heaving in the flanks, that indicate an oppressed state of the lungs or difficulty of respiration, the mode of feeding should be regulated accordingly; upon a proper attention to which circumstance, many of the consequences evidently depend. For, whether as a preventive or cure, mashes should be occasionally given, and gradually declined, till the food becomes regularly dry: hay should be distributed in small quantities, that the contents of the stomach may not be too much increased for gradual digestion. To horses of this description food should be given that will afford the greatest nutriment with the smallest quantity: on the contrary, so soon as the probability of such defect is perceived, the horse

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is *too generally* concluded of the least value, and treated accordingly. Instead of mitigating the symptoms, they are constantly increased by the very means that should be avoided; the foulest and most injurious food is liberally supplied—gross clover hay—mixed chaff—and as much water as the animal chooses to carry, are too often permitted, even without restraint, and the defect absolutely encouraged to become habitual, instead of being alleviated, by the very means that reason dictates and discretion directs. — Upon this subject see farther observations, p. 400.

## CONSUMPTION

Is a disease or complication upon which very little need be introduced, but to keep up the appearance of form, and pay the necessary and expected compliment to custom. No appellation, no description of disease, has been more *backnied*, more *prostituted* and *perverted*, than the very name of CONSUMPTION; it has for ages been an excellent *mask* of *mystery* for the doubts of the FACULTY, and no bad explanatory substitute for the meaning of the

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*vulgar,*

*vulgar*; in all those internal decays of the human species, where the *chasm* in the countenance of the DOCTOR, and the ambiguous shake of the hand, (including the alternate construction of hope and fear,) is intended to convince the anxious attendant that symptoms are *obscure* by *circumstances*, and *certainty* not to be *ascertained*.

A consumption may proceed from a non-performance of the functions to which many parts of the animal structure may be destined not only from ruptures of the blood, or in vessels in the lungs, (originating in causes repeatedly described), terminating in *ulcers*, *tubercles*, and *callosities*; but in a *schirrosity* of the *liver*, and *induration* of some of the *glandular* parts, and many other internal complaints & injuries to which the references, by symptoms remote from the seat of pain or disease, must be often deceptive, so as in some cases to perplex more than direct. This being a very false and candid state of the case before us, the reader will do well to collect what information he can from his attentive observations; then compare them with the most predominant symptoms described under the heads of different diseases.

diseases, and so adjust his decision as to bring it into that class to which it bears the greatest similitude, and adopt a mode of treatment accordingly. To take this subject in as concise a view as possible, (let it proceed from whatever cause); the course of *balsamic restoratives* and *detergent pectorals*, found under the heads of COLDS, COUGHS, and succeeding articles, with the aids of *bleeding*, *mashes*, and such other assistances as may be selected from the variety of prescriptions and instructions so often repeated, render unnecessary any farther observation or animadversion upon this head,

## C L A S S VII.

FEVERS, WORMS, AND JAUNDICE. 

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F E V E R S,

THE observations and reflections that first induced me to perceive the absolute necessity of some reformation in the practice of FARRIERY, never influenced me more in a conviction of that want, than did a thorough investigation of the subject before us. For BARTLET, in his usual *kind* and *easy* way, says “ he *purposely avoids* giving descriptions of diseases, or so much as *guessing* at the causes “ *within* which bring them about.” What could have been his motive for “ purposely” concealing what in “ A Practical Treatise” had *every right* to be revealed, I know not; and what his reasons *could be*, I leave entirely to the private opinions of others, making public  
(upon



(upon THAT circumstance) only ONE of my own; that whoever is a stranger to the origin of disease, must be consequently so to every method and rational system of cure.

This being evidently clear to the meanest and most uncultivated comprehension, I must beg leave to observe how much on the contrary GIBSON has *superlatively* obliged us in the very quintessence of prolixity and complication; for, with the reverse of BARTLET's *reason* and want of patience, he has most elaborately gone through what may be termed a complete system of *imaginary* fevers; and regularly transferred the observation and language of ancient authors upon the diseases of the human species to the constitution of quadrupeds. He not only tediously describes the *simple* and *continued* fever; the *beetic*, *putrid*, and *pestilential*; but, to prove his attachment to the subject, animadverts upon *quotidians*, *tertians*, and *quartans*, enlarging separately upon each; and concludes in an inexplicable jargon upon the whole.

As indeed does OSMER, (who, as before observed, wrote in later times) in what he calls

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“ A Treatise

“ A Treatise on the Diseases and Lameness of  
 “ Horses;” though an attentive inspection and  
 perusal, prove it decidedly a treatise upon the  
 feet and shoeing; nothing being introduced  
 either full or explanatory upon the *origin*  
*cure* of any disease to which the horse is sub-  
 ject, or any precise or regular method of treat-  
 ment pointed out, the very few remedies slight-  
 ly recommended, being left (in respect  
 quantity and proportion) entirely at the di-  
 cretion of the reader.

In respect to fevers, he includes all under  
 the denomination of a *distemper*, and then gives  
 you a description of what he calls “ five  
 “ different classes or degrees of this disease ;”  
 but, after minutely investigating his explana-  
 tions, I must confess them so replete with  
 supposititious alternatives, and theoretical un-  
 certainties, that they seem much more evi-  
 dently calculated to perplex than enlighten a  
 subject, that has hitherto been too much ob-  
 scured by the illiteracy of some, and the af-  
 fected or political abstrusity of others. In  
 fact, the purport of the inquiry is so entire-  
 ly lost in a variety of inapplicable digressions  
 and incoherent stories, that not a single clue

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is left by which the least rational and authentic information is to be acquired, except “plentiful *bleedings*, the unlimited use of salt-petre, and the insertion of rowels,” even to the number of six or eight upon the same subject.

Every intelligent observer must be well convinced of the absurdity of such accumulation as GIBSON describes, and the improbability (not to say, what might be very well justified, the *impossibility*) of discovering, by no other means than *silent* symptoms and *ocular* inspection (amounting to no kind of demonstration) the origin, cause, or indeed distemper itself, to which there is no *certain* distinction, or palpable proof of existence. And when it is remembered there is no agency in the animal by which the particulars of his pain or distress can be communicated, every judicious and candid reader will admit the impracticability of discriminating between the variety of symptoms, by which alone all this FAMILY OF FEVERS are to be ascertained. It may also be taken into consideration, that animals of this class, from their simple diet and regular

lar mode of living, cannot be subject to such complicated disorders, most of which, in the human species, evidently result from irregularity and indiscretion. Bringing this combination of circumstances into one point of view, I shall avail myself of the advantages naturally arising from observations upon the *political* abstrusity of one, and the *paradoxical* brightness of *technical obscurity* of the other; reducing the whole class of febrile disquietudes simply to two kinds, the symptomatic and inflammatory only.

A symptomatic fever is a degree of inflammation and increased circulation, occasioned by some distinct or local pain, and is not a disorder (*ab origine*) within itself, but palpably the effect of, and dependent upon, some other for its production. This fever is so influenced by the cause, and so entirely regulated by its changes, either for *better* or *worse*, as to be constantly reduced by an alleviation of the original complaint, and *totally* dispelled by a removal of the disease, to which it is a concomitant. This fever being only a symptom of some other, (the mere effect of preternatural  
heat

heat excited by extreme pain) and not a distinct disease, stands in need of no elucidation; let the original cause be removed, and the effect will cease of course.

It has been repeatedly urged by authors of **repute**, that every fever is one and the same **disorder**, appearing differently according to the **various** circumstancea it meets with in **different** constitutions. Much may be advanced in **favour** of this assertion; but, it not being our **present** purpose to enter upon the discussion of **so** extensive a subject, we will contract it as **much** as the nature of the disease will admit, **and** venture to affirm the fever to which horses **are** most subject is that distinct kind called **inflammatory**. To produce that preternatural **heat** or increased circulation, constituting what **is** termed fever, there must be some pre-exist-**ing** cause, to discover the true seat of which **great** nicety of discrimination is unavoidably **necessary**; here is no information to be **collected**, but by the *hand* and the *eye*; the first **should** be sanctioned by JUDGMENT and **EXPERIENCE**, the latter regulated by **REASON** and **OBSERVATION**.

For want of due attention to these salutary considerations, many fine and valuable horses have been hastily and dictatorially sentenced to pass that "bourn from whence no traveller returns!" And here it can neither be thought inapplicable or intrusive to remind every person employed in the practice, under the denomination of FARRIER, that frequently upon his *learned decision alone* depends the LIFE or DEATH of this most valuable animal. He should not only be accurately nice in the discrimination of disease; but, by attending minutely to circumstances, endeavour to develop the mysterious indications of Nature, cover all her wants, and strengthen every effort; for she is tenacious of her many powerful privileges, and will not bear too "insolent a monitor." To become the more adequate to this task of integrity, he should be anxiously careful to improve his judgment, and adopt the known qualities of medicines to the expectation of their effects; to have in view, upon every emergency, the operations from which certain or probable relief is to be obtained; and to promote those ends by every *fair* and *gentle* means that may be justified by circumstances or dictated by discretion.

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To enter into a tedious medical disquisition upon the origin of fevers, their different degrees and effects, would exhaust the *patience* of the most *patient* inquirer; I shall consequently avoid so unentertaining a detail, and adhere to such explanatory parts as become more immediately the objects of information. To enumerate the possible causes in which a fever may originate, would be, in this work, equally impracticable; they are so much more symptomatic than self-existing, that circumstances and careful attention only must lead to the discovery.

There is not the least doubt but a general cutaneous obstruction, or sudden constriction upon the perspirable pores, (proceeding from what cause soever,) will constitute the foundation of every fever to which the animal can possibly be subject: the matter destined for perspiration, being forcibly returned upon the vessels, is absorbed into the circulation; the blood being thus corrupted becomes viscid, the passages are evidently overloaded, and Nature, by an increase of circulation in the velocity of the blood, endeavours to relieve herself from the oppression, which in this disease she so evidently labours under.

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In respect to symptoms, the inspection should be made with care and attention; the general modes of enquiry are **SUPERFICIAL**, and the decision often **FALLACIOUS**. The pathognomonic, or certain signs, are an universal heat and disordered pulse, a palpable disquietude and uneasiness, shifting from place to place; the horse labours under difficult respiration, his mouth is very dry, his tongue parched and hot, he declines food but receives water; sometimes seizes his hay with seeming eagerness, then drops it in disappointment; the body is generally costive, and in the early state of disease, there is a proportional obstruction of urine. Let a fever proceed from whatever cause, the indications of cure are still the same; diminish the preternatural heat to the degree that constitutes its healthy state, remove all internal obstructions, and, by a proper and judicious administration of medicines (calculated to subdue the original cause), all dependent symptoms will certainly subside.

The first necessary step to a rectification of such inflammatory or diseased state of the blood is a reduction in quantity, therefore instantly *bleed*, according to strength and circumstances.



If the horse is *costive* in body, the excrements hard, dark in colour, and foul in smell, the symptoms of disease powerful, with strong heaving in the flanks, do not delay the assistance of the following emollient glyster, which, being composed of ingredients entirely DOMESTIC, may be most expeditiously provided.

TAKE water gruel two quarts ;

Coarse sugar half a pound :

Common salt four ounces (or single handful :)

Olive oil a quarter of a pint.—Mix together, and inject moderately warm.

This, by its gentle relaxing property, will probably promote desirable evacuations in both stool and urine : being equal to any other that can be prescribed for the purpose, however prepared with articles remote from present practice or difficult to be obtained. If obstructions should not be removed, or the necessary evacuations ensue, repeat the operation in four hours after ; strengthening your injection with two ounces of *lenitive electuary*, and three ounces of *Glauber salts*, both being dissolved in the gruel. This will produce certain evacuations, as the first

first by its retention will have relaxed the indurated contents of the intestines, and rendered them ready for immediate expulsion, by the active power of the additional stimulants here prescribed. In two or three hours after such evacuations (or sooner if seemingly requisite) let a mash of *scalded bran* be placed in the manger, to which, if he refuses, a handful of oats may be added by way of inducement; if still declined, let them be removed, and a small quantity of very sweet hay left in the rack. Let him be gently rubbed over, moderately clothed, and well littered up with clean dry straw, after giving him one ounce of *nitre* dissolved in a small draught of warm water, slightly impregnated with a proportion of thin gruel.

Previous to farther DIRECTIONS for the treatment of fevers, or INSTRUCTIONS for the preparation of medicine, it becomes unavoidably necessary to say something upon the quality and indiscriminate use of that excellent article *nitre*, the purposes of which are so frequently prostituted in its general application by *all* classes and in *all* cases, in compliment to BARTLET'S *unlimited* eulogiums; who has not only, in a  
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variety of instances, blended it in composition with its *opposites* in effect, but stamped it with his opinion so great a specific, that a few observations on its virtues and *real uses* become immediately necessary to the propriety of its future administration being better understood.

OSMER was likewise so infatuated with its reported perfections, that he became an advocate for its unlimited utility, and, like his predecessors, pronounced it an infallible specific for all those disorders he condescended to take a superficial survey of; urging the administration of it to almost any proportion upon every occasion, though, in the very same page, he confesses some horses “shall not be able to take the smallest quantity without being affected with gripes, or colic, therefore it is always best to begin with a small quantity.”

That it is *cooling*, allays *thirst*, promotes the *secretions*, and is an usual assistant likewise in a course of *alteratives*, is admitted; but how far it is eligible to give it in *fevers*, in the *very large* proportions recommended by BARTLET and OSMER, will be best decided by giving the  
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matter

matter a farther investigation. For instance, urges the administration of it to attenuate thin the dense fizy blood, during the effect inflammatory fevers; this property of attention being allowed, what must be the natural conclusion or consequence of giving such quantities “*as three or four ounces three times a day?*” Why, every professional man, knowing the mode by which it *must* inevitably affect the system of circulation, would naturally expect it to dissolve the very crassamentum of blood, and reduce it to an absolute *serum* aqueous vapour.

That *nitre* has its peculiar good qualities salutary effects, when *prudently* administered no rational practitioner will ever deny; the variety of experiments repeatedly made upon its efficacy, by the most eminent physicians since the practice of GIBSON, BRACKEN, BARTLET, has undoubtedly deprived it *considerable portion* of its former estimation, it is now reduced to that rank of merit experimentally found to fall to its share. Treating it therefore with the properties it is possessed of and entitled to, not looking upon it as the *grand arcanum* of infallibility or *medicinal* idoliza

*idolization*, I venture to pronounce, its good effects can only be obtained by judicious administrations of such proportions as are properly calculated to promote the purposes for which they are designed. Its properties and effects being now more generally ascertained than FORMERLY, the inconsistency of blending it (in large quantities) with medicines intended to promote perspiration is palpably striking; as it is well known to every medical practitioner its intermediation would rather tend to destroy the earnest intent of the whole.

On the contrary, given in small quantities of *half an ounce*, or *ounce*, once or twice a day in the beginning of fevers, with *good nursing*, *moderate clothing*, *warm mashes*, and *diluting drinks* of thin gruel, it may frequently have a very good effect; but should the predominant symptoms not submit to that treatment, no *larger doses* of *nitre* should be ventured upon to hazard a too great and sudden dissolution of the blood, or an obstruction to the critical perspiration, upon which a speedy cure very much depends.

Upon the non-submission of symptoms to these means, the following gentle system must

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be adopted and regularly continued, to relax the rigidity of the pores, and produce a pliability of the surface, preparatory to the perspirable crisis, which is now become necessary to solicit, by every proper medicine that can be offered for that purpose. To promote this, give one of the following balls, and let it be repeated every six or eight hours as may be found necessary :

**TAKE** mithridate six drachms ;  
Aniseed and compound contrayerva powders each  
half an ounce ;  
Snake root (in powder) two drachms ;  
Salt of hartshorn one drachm ;  
Syrup of saffron sufficient to make a ball.

But where the administration of medicine in this form may be objected to, or a drink thought more convenient, the following may be substituted in its stead :

**TAKE** of the strong infusion of camomile (commonly called camomile tea) half a pint ;  
Mindererus's spirit a quarter of a pint ;  
Saffron wine two ounces ;  
Antimonial wine one ounce.—Mix together.

**This**

This drink, or one of the above balls, may be continued every six or eight hours, according to the emergency, till relief is obtained, or circumstances urge an alteration in the mode of treatment. Small quantities of drink (about two quarts) should be given once in three or four hours, prepared in the proportion of a quart of thick gruel to a gallon of water; in each draught of which may be given half an ounce of *nitre*, or an ounce of *cream of tartar*, with the farther addition of a quarter of a pint of the following acidulated liquid, separately prepared for the purpose.

TAKE of good honey one pound;

Best vinegar a pint and a half; boil over the fire a few minutes, taking off the scum, and set by for use.

Should any swellings appear upon the glands of the head or neck, a cough come on, or a critical discharge be perceived at the nostrils, keep the head warm that the flux may be promoted to that part.

If the predominant symptoms should not submit in four-and-twenty or six-and-thirty

hours, attend to those most alarming; and proceed to their mitigation accordingly; if still costive, repeat the *laxative glyster*, or the following drink:

TAKE Epsom salts and cream of tartar, each three ounces;

Soluble tartar one ounce; dissolve in three quarters of a pint of thin gruel; then add tincture of jalap half an ounce, and tincture of senna two ounces.—Mix.

Should the cough increase *bleed*, in proportion: if the urine is small in quantity, high in colour, or deposits a turbid sediment upon being saved, give *nitre* frequently, and in small proportions, as before directed, During all the tedious ceremony of indisposition wait with patience, and attend to the indications of *Nature* more than the bewildered doubts and prognostics of the FARRIER, who, knowing little of the *anatomical structure*, less of the *animal economy*, and totally incapable of forming any *consistent* idea of the properties of medicine, stands a perplexed stranger to both *causes* and *events*, professionally insensible to the foundation of either *hope* or *fear*.

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In difficult and alarming cases, recourse must always be had to the different prescriptions introduced under their proper classes, *varying, increasing, and diminishing*, the articles or proportions, according to the state of symptoms or disease for which they are prescribed. Upon a horse's improvement, every sign in *food, water, ease, and rest*, is so evidently calculated to give ample proof of speedy recovery, that any recital of circumstances so readily distinguished would be entirely superfluous. Therefore naturally concluding every intelligent observer will plainly perceive, when his horse is getting out of danger, how *soon* medicine is unnecessary, and *when* perfectly recovered, I consider it only necessary to observe, where the distemper has been violent, and the inflammatory symptoms ran high, so as to leave any perceptible taint upon either *eyes* or *lungs*, in a heaviness upon the *first*, or an oppression upon the *latter*, a course of mild purgatives selected from the *purging balls*, (No. 1, or 2,) p. 36, will be very necessary and advantageous; letting it be clearly understood that no such plan is to be adopted if the termination of the disorder should happen in the severe part of the winter, when a course of *mild diuretics* is to be preferred, as particu-

larified in p. 75; remembering that *neither* can be proceeded upon till the horse is so much recovered in strength and appearance as to render unnecessary any fear of local or constitutional weakness. The mode of treatment here laid down; and strenuously recommended; is a system established upon the principles of *reason* and *reformation*; not the effusion of wild chimerical experiments; engendered by *folly* and promoted by *ignorance*; but a course of practice (exposed to no lottery of *chance* or certainty of *danger*); the result of *attentive study*; *accurate* OBSERVATION; and *long* EXPERIENCE.

Having thus unavoidably enlarged upon the nature and treatment of such *febrile* complaints as frequently come under common observation; I shall advert to the necessary consideration of those diseases called *epidemic* or *malignant*; and are so termed from their being in general contagious or infectious, and at certain times local or fixed to particular parts of the kingdom; and other seasons almost universal, bearing in either case the common term of "a distemper among the horses." As *epidemic* diseases appear differently at different seasons, varying in symptoms;

toms, for which no exact cause can be ascertained or reason supported, but the excessive *drought* of one season, or *dense atmosphere* of another, it must evidently appear that, under such circumstances, no accurate description of corresponding symptoms can be collected from books without a very minute and proper attention to the nature of attack.

To these leading traits all the judgment and penetration of the FARRIER, or *superintendant*, must be directed; for, as such disorders are in general complicated, and not distinguishable under any *particular* head, but partaking of *many*, every striking symptom should be well observed and distinguished from its opposite, or classed with its concomitant, till a parallel being drawn between its most predominant features, some degree of certainty is ascertained, to which class it bears the *greatest* affinity, or to what head it *properly* belongs. And as this work abounds with medicinal aids, carefully adapted to *every* purpose, the reader cannot possibly be so destitute of comprehension, as not to be enabled (upon particular occasions,) to make some necessary alterations, as the intent and  
effect

effect of the medicines prescribed are in general pointed out and explained.

We will, therefore, in consequence of the great fatuity attending EPIDEMIC disorders, conclude they are more entitled to consideration as *pestilential* disease than any other: admitting this conception to be clear, it becomes necessary to say enough to make the subject sufficiently understood, without protracting it to an extreme of medical *minutiae* that cannot tend to render the matter more profitable or entertaining. In those diseases where the origin cannot be ascertained the cure becomes a matter of greater obscurity; but, in general, proceeding from whatever cause, the *blood* is in an impoverished state, and the *crassamentum* found upon evacuation to be dissolved (or liquefied) very much below the standard of health; for, being deprived of the due proportion of its stimulative property, it becomes consequently inadequate to its peculiar purpose of circulation. The whole *arterial* system being thus deprived of proportional distributions to every part of the frame, becomes too feeble to sustain the shock; and,

and, sinking under the *putrid* or *malignant miasma*, displays the degree of oppression nature labours under in symptoms so very *uncertain*, that no literary description can accurately correspond with.

It will therefore (as repeatedly recommended) prove highly necessary to attend particularly to symptoms, and proceed accordingly. At any rate *blood* should be immediately drawn upon the very first appearance of disease (in QUANTITY corresponding with CONDITION), that its *quality* may be the better ascertained. Should obstructions be observed in the body, they must be directly removed by gently stimulating or emollient *glysters*; the appetite should be attended to, and gratified in *mashe*s of *malt* and *bran*, *bran* and *oats*, or *plain bran*, stirring into either of the last, while hot, four ounces of *honey*. Common drink of gruel water, impregnated with *nitre* or *cream* of *tartar*, as before directed, may be given as occasion requires. Every five, six, eight, or ten hours, (according to the state and danger of the disease), let one of the following ALEXIPHARMIC BALLS be administered, first removing any intestinal obstruction

obstruction of *stool* or *urine*, should such be present :

**TAKE** of Venice treacle six drachms ;

Compound powder of contrayerva, snake root, saffron, and London philonium, each two drachms ;

Syrup (if necessary) to make the ball.

Or where, in compliment to ancient practice, a drink may be preferred as more applicable or convenient, the following may be prepared :

**TAKE** of genuine Peruvian bark (in powder) six drachms ;

Compound contrayerva and snake-root (in powder) each to drachms ;

Saffron and ginger each a drachm ;

Best brandy a quarter of a pint ;

Boiling water half a pint.

Let the saffron be cut very small, and infused in the boiling water, covered close, for a quarter of an hour ; then, having the other ingredients ready in a mortar, add the brandy first ; and lastly, mix with the infusion of saffron, and give without waste if possible.

In an hour after either the *ball* or *liquid*, two or three quarts of the gruel drink may be given  
warm,

warm, and future proceedings regulated by symptoms and circumstances: increasing appearances of DANGER must justify exertions of ALACRITY and FORTITUDE. Enlarge your quantities and multiply your doses, aiding your judgment by frequent references to the different prescriptions under similar symptoms: proportion your medicines by the dictates of reason and the degree of hazard to which the patient is exposed.

Should any critical swellings or formations of matter appear at the decline of *fever* or *epidemic* disease, their suppuration and discharge must be promoted by the rules laid down under those heads; observing if a horse displays in his general habit as (*eyes, beels, &c.*) a great degree of *foulness*, to embrace the first opportunity of carrying it off by the insertion of a *rowel*, and regular course of either *antimonial* or *mercurial alteratives*, whichever upon inquiry may appear most applicable to the case.

On the contrary, should the original complaint so relax the stomach, impair the digestive powers, or debilitate the system, as to produce  
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an irregularity in habit, bearing alternate appearance of HEALTH and SICKNESS, corresponding in some degrees with the *intermittents* or *agues* of our own species, *cordial stomachic restoratives* are the medicines upon which the expectation of cure may be with most certainty formed; therefore prepare the following balls:

TAKE of Peruvian bark (in powder) four ounces;  
 Mithridate (or diacordium) two ounces;  
 Winter's bark, snake-root, and camomile (in powder)  
 each one ounce;  
 Honey sufficient to make a mass, which divide into  
 six balls.

Of these let one be given every night and morning, when the horse is in a state of temperance, perceptibly free from every appearance of extreme heat or cold, continuing them till double the above are taken, should the case require it. Where a drink is preferred, one of the balls may be gradually dissolved in three quarters of a pint of thin gruel, to which may be added a common glass of good brandy. As there are no more cases coming into an exact line of similitude with those we have now treated



treated on, we of course come to such as (from their frequent occurrence) rank in equal estimation.

## W O R M S.

WHAT inveterate obstacles these insects are to a horse's improvement, where they have unluckily gained possession, *time* and *experience* have sufficiently demonstrated. They are of so pernicious and destructive a tendency, that, having once secured a settlement in either stomach or intestines, the horse becomes a prey to perpetual depredation, till effectual methods are taken for their total expiration. The worms with which horses are so frequently persecuted, are to appearance of many different sorts and shapes; but the kinds most generally known and observed, are the two distinct kind of BOTS and the ASCARIDES or small short *worm*.

The different BOTS are remarkable for taking their seats as opposite to each other in the animal as they are in their own formation; for

the BOT, whose residence seems fixed in the *stomach*, and in the interstices or folds, of which the eggs are said to have been discovered, upon dissection, is not at all unlike (in shape and make) the earth GRUB WORM, so singularly remarkable for its destructive havock upon the roots of the strawberries, in large plantations, in the early part of the season, particularly in dry springs. They are furnished not only with a complete pair of prominent tusks, that grow horizontally from the head, having great power of compression, and exceedingly sharp at the point, but an infinity of legs so minutely fine, that even a momentary inspection will instantly remove every degree of surprise at their causing such excruciating pain upon a part so exquisitely irritable as the nervous coat with which the internal membrane of the stomach is most delicately covered.

The second sort are seen frequently adhering to the rectum, or internal part of the fundament, in the action of voiding the excrements; and are often forced away with the contents. To give the reader a conception of these perfectly clear, it is impossible to communicate or receive a stronger idea than a formation directly  
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midway between a very small earth worm and a millepedes, or woodlouse, partaking of the length of the former, and the feet of the latter, extremely sharp, and exceedingly numerous. Immediately after their ejection they continue to writhe and twirl most rapidly upon the surface of the dung, bearing great affinity to the action of an eel when taken from its natural element and placed upon land.

There is also sometimes seen adhering closely to the same parts, and discharged in the same manner, an indolent kind of BOT, appearing almost inanimate, that keeps its hold only by a point like the *leech*, and is, in form, exactly like the *grub*, or *worm*, that may be so plentifully extracted (by pressure only) from those prominences perceptible upon the backs of horned cattle during the hot months in the summer season.

Thus much is introduced to prove the *variety* of those insects, in general so prejudicial to the frame when once they have gained admission, or secured their seats: respecting which such a diversity of opinions have been broached, and nothing finally satisfactory ascertained of their origin, either in the human species or brute creation.

creation. Some avow their *animalculæ*, or eggs, to take place in the impurities of slimy mucus, accumulated in the stomach, and there brought to perfection; others assert their formation and consequent progress to be carried on in the intestines; and many are not without belief that the *animalculæ*, or eggs, are conveyed into the body with a part of the vegetable world upon which they subsist, and there brought to their state of perfection.

I shall barely venture to hint at the *possibility* of their undergoing (in shape or appearance) in the different parts of the body, as the *stomach*, *intestines*, or *rectum*, those changes that we well know take place in the *silk-worm*, *caterpillar*, &c. *seeming* to constitute a different species, though the contrary is universally proved by even ocular demonstration of the very act of *mutation*. As enlarging upon the great consistency and probability of this circumstance can only extend the field for imagination, without adding at all to the utility or elucidation of the subject, that indeterminate point shall remain undisturbed, while we proceed to the more material investigation of consequences and cure.

Whatever

Whatever doubts or opinions may have been held, or gone forth, respecting their origin or different kinds, one opinion has been long universal upon their effects; that is, where they have taken possession for any length of time, or in any great degree as to number, no *care, art, or attention*, can give your horse the appearance of HILARITY, HEALTH, and CONDITION. He is in perpetual anxiety for a constant supply of either food or water, and in return but poorly repays the gratification; for, in the midst of all, he seldom, or *indeed never*, looks well; after having been sometime a prey to them he gets low in flesh, hard in his hide, his coat itares, he always seems dejected, sweats upon trifling exercise, and that sweat perceptibly unhealthy, and remarkably foul in effluvia.

The smaller kind of BOTS, and the ASCARIDES, or small round worms, are attended in general with no other symptoms or inconveniences than the last described; on the contrary the BOTS, whose station is supposed (hitherto, to be confined to the *stomach*, when strong in number and come to maturity, are so severe in their operations that the great irritability of the part occasions the most excruciating pain

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and predominant appearance of distress. The horse is not only distressed with all the before-mentioned proofs of bad state of body and internal decay, but likewise to violent periodical pains, approaching to convulsions or seeming madness; he displays all the external symptoms of *gripes*, *spasms* in the *stomach*, *strangury*, nay even of a *complication* of disorders; but where the evacuations of stool and urine are not suppressed, the original complaint may be attributed to this cause.

Of all the various methods that have been adopted in rational and regular practice (or the experiments under adventurous sanction), none can lay such claim to approbation as that certain and indubitable cure—a course of *mercurial* physic. *Antimonials* and preparations of *tin* have had each their advocates, as well as those botanical deceptives, *rue*, *garlic*, *tansy*, *savin*, and *box*; all calculated to amuse, but none to convince. Experience has determined the specific effects of *mercurials* in this case absolutely infallible; before the power of which every species of worms, and their *oviparous* remains, indiscriminately fall, and are totally extirpated without admitting the shadow of doubt.

So soon therefore as they are suspected, or at ~~least so soon as they are~~ ascertained, to have taken possession, it will be prudent to prevent a horse being hurt in appetite, reduced in flesh, or altered in condition (by their constantly preying upon the internal coat of the stomach, and injuring those minute passages through which the chyle or nutritive parts of the aliment is conveyed into the circulation, for the general support of the frame), to proceed upon some one of the following courses without delay.

Prepare your horse for the course of physic by the instructions giving under that head, page 35; and let your dose be adapted to the strength, size, and condition of your subject, by these rules: if the horse is thorough bred, and delicate in shape and make,

To the purging ball, No. 1, add calomel one drachm and a half.

If the horse is beyond this pitch of delicacy, stronger in make, and more entitled to the appellation of HUNTER, shewing some propor-

TAKE the purging ball, No. 2, to which add calomel two drachms,

Should the subject be of a still stronger make, constituting what we term a **STOUT ROAD HORSE**,

To the purging ball, No. 3, add calomel two drachms and a half,

If on the contrary very large, strong, so **WAGGON-HORSES**, or powerful **COACH HORSES**, should become the subjects, they will very well bear the following, to produce the proper and desired effects :

TAKE the purging ball, No. 4, to which add calomel three drachms.

By the operation of the first dose upon either subject, observation may be made whether diminution in the purgative articles is required, or any addition found necessary. Proper care must be used to avoid every probability of taking cold, and the regular course of three doses gone through, at the distance of six or eight



eight clear days between each. But, as the prevalent love of novelty may with some produce the expectation of an alternative, the following PURGING BALL will be as certainly efficacious; observing to add of *jalap two drachms* to the present prescription, if the horse should be either of the two last classes described.

**TAKE** of Barbadoes aloes ten drachms;

Æthiop's mineral half an ounce;

Soap, India rhubarb, and ginger (in powder) each one drachm;

Oil of aniseed and favin each thirty drops;

Syrup of buckthorn or roses to make the ball.

The course of operation to be managed with the same care and precaution as those before described; the least doubt of their efficacy need not be indulged, as a course of *either* will certainly obliterate them from every part of the intestinal canal, and the subject will, in a very few days, with proper care, attention, food, and exercise, evidently demonstrate his advantage in being perfectly relieved from such disagreeable company. But as there will most undoubtedly be horses troubled with WORMS

in the possession of those, who, from the nature of their avocations, cannot submit them to so long a respite from business as is necessary for a regular course of *purging medicines*, it will naturally be expected an effectual substitute should be held forth for the gratification of all parties.

To those therefore who cannot render the administration of MERCURIAL *purgatives* a matter of perfect convenience, the following course may be adopted with the greatest certainty of equal effect:

TAKE of Æthiop's mineral six ounces;

Levigated antimony four ounces;

Sulphur, prepared steel, and aniseed powder, each three ounces;

Honey sufficient to make a mass, which divide into nine balls.

Of these let one be given *every morning* for *three* in succession; then omit *three*, and repeat for *three more* in succession; then omit for *three* mornings, a *second* time, and repeat your remaining balls on the *three* successive mornings, when

when the *whole nine* will be consumed, and certainly productive of the purpose for which they are intended. The great advantage attending this method of destroying worms, is the horse's being enabled to pursue his constant work, but care should be taken he is not too much exposed to severe cold or rainy weather during the time of taking the balls.

For the accommodation of those to whom the business of giving a ball may be a work of trouble or difficulty, the *honey* may be omitted; and the other ingredients, being well incorporated in a mortar, must be divided into nine equal parts, and mixed with the night or morning feeds of corn, (it being first sprinkled with water in the manger, to ensure adhesion and prevent waste) being given with the same distinctions and variations in respect to time, as specified in the above instructions, when given in the form of *balls*.

JAUNDICE,

## J A U N D I C E,

COMMONLY CALLED

## T H E Y E L L O W S.

THIS is a disorder common to horses of every description, to which they are subject from various causes; the most material of these we shall accurately explain. The more simple and least dangerous complaint, passing under this denomination, arises solely from an obstruction in the biliary ducts, or in the gall-bladder, situated between the two lobes of the liver; whose immediate purpose it is to assist in secreting the bile from the blood, and promote its conveyance to the intestines, where (by its acrid and stimulating property) it is destined to excite the peristaltic motion, by which they expel their contents.

In the jaundice arising from this cause, the ducts or pipes for the passage of bile are obstructed by *slime, mucus, or viscid coagulum*; the

the fluid, thus impeded in its usual progress, regurgitates, becomes immediately incorporated with the blood, and, through the system of circulation, diffuses itself to every part of the frame, denoting its presence by an early appearance of yellowness in the *eyes, mouth, tongue, and saliva*. To these pathognomonic or invariable symptoms may be added those not altogether so certain in its earliest state; the horse generally seems heavy, dull, and dejected, with loss of appetite and consequent rejection of food, more than will barely subsist nature; a slight symptomatic fever soon comes on, and keeps pace with the disease; a sluggishness or aversion to motion is plainly perceptible; a foul, faint sweat appears upon the least exercise; and the urine is of a dark saffron tinge, resembling an infusion of that article; the dung varies much in different subjects, but is IN ALL many degrees paler, and more indigested, than the excrements of horses in high condition.

The indications of cure naturally arise out of the very description of the disease; to effect which there will be but little difficulty, provided it is taken upon its first appearance, when it may most probably be totally removed by

the following interposition of MILD PLEBSTRUMENTS, without recurring to a course of *purgatives*, which may not at all times be perfectly convenient. If, on the contrary, the disorder should have been observed some time, a *course of physic* must precede other intentions of cure, as will be hereafter explained. If discovered in its earliest state, let two or three *maßes* of *scalded malt* be given at proper periods, to relax the indurated contents of the intestines, these being assisted, if necessary, with an emollient, or the domestic laxative *glyster*, as mentioned page 239. The body being sufficiently relaxed to remove every probability of obstruction, let the following plan be adopted and regularly persevered in :

**TAKE** of Castile soap eight ounces ;

Turneric (in powder) six ounces ;

Soluble tartar three ounces ;

India rhubarb two ounces ;

Long pepper (in powder) one ounce ;

Saffron half an ounce ;

Syrup or honey sufficient to make the mass ;

Which divide into *ten* balls, and give one every morning.

During this course, every requisite attention must be paid to *appetite, food, and gentle exercise*; *mashes of malt and bran* may be given every, or every other night, to keep the body properly lax, and regular in evacuation; to assist which two ounces of *cream of tartar* may be added once a day, in the morning or evening water, being previously dissolved in a pint over the fire, and added to the remainder.

The disease, if arising from the cause before-mentioned, and attacked in its infancy, will generally submit to the above course and treatment only; but in more advanced cases double the quantity may be found necessary, with the addition of *mild physic* or *moderate bleeding*. This is certain, where the complaint has not been attended to in its *early* state, and symptoms are so high as to substantiate a degree of virulence, the *physic*, and a repetition of the above proportion, had better be adopted. Although there is no very predominant reason to be urged in favour of *bleeding*, yet a small quantity may be lost, not only to ascertain its present *state*, but to promote a slight change in the circulation. Two or three *mashes* must be given on the two successive days after bleeding: on the third

morning give the first of the following PURGING BALLS, repeating it at the distance of six or eight days between each dose, till *three* are taken, regulating the whole course by the treatment so often repeated, and the precaution necessarily urged to avoid cold; more particularly where the *cathartics* are impregnated with *mercury*, as in the present instance:

TAKE succotrine aloes one ounce;

India rhubarb, jalap, and saffron, each two drachms;

Calomel and ginger each a drachm;

Syrup of saffron sufficient to form the ball for one dose.

This ball is so accurately proportioned as to be nearly applicable in strength to any subject for this distemper, where no *violent* effects are to be required; but should any alteration in force be desired for a horse remarkably strong, or delicate in constitution, increase or diminish its strength, by an addition to, or diminution of, the *jalap*; the other ingredients remaining in their present proportions.

In three days after the last dose is completely set, and the horse recovered his appetite, begin  
upon



upon the following course of warm *deobstruent* restoratives, giving one every morning without remission till the whole are taken.

TAKE Castile soap eight ounces ;

Turmeric and filings of iron each four ounces ;

Aniseed and elecampane each two ounces ;

Vitriolated tartar one ounce and a half ;

Oil of aniseed three drachms.—Honey sufficient to make the mass ; and divide into a dozen balls.

During the time of taking these, let the former instructions relative to food, exercise, dressing, &c. be strictly adhered to, with such other little attentions as circumstances require ; remembering to relinquish the medicines by gradations, as every other morning, or once in *three*, but not to discontinue them entirely, till *all* symptoms totally disappear.

The distinct kind of this disease, arising from a remote and very *discouraging* cause, is that species originating in an *induration* of (or *schirrosities* upon) the *liver*. I say discouraging, because LITTLE or no hope of permanent relief can be entertained, as may very naturally be concluded from even a superficial consideration of the case, not only by its remote situation,

7 so

so distant from the power of the most active medicine; the great certainty of no advantage being obtained but by the *circuitous* communication through the medium of the blood, and the additional reflection; palpably clear to the judgment of every reader, that no *solvent* can probably be conveyed through the circulation *only*, sufficiently powerful to resolve or extirpate either *swelling*, *schirrosity*, or *tubercle*, upon a part so distant from the seat of action as that we now treat of.

As the necessary steps for PALLIATION of symptoms, or HOPE of *cure*, will consequently be expected, *bleeding* is of course premised, to reduce the contents and take off some degree of stricture from the vessels; remove obstructions in the body by *mashes* of *malt* and *bran*, for two or three days, as before directed, then proceed to the course of *mercurial* purging balls here recommended, attending to the mode of treatment so often repeated:

TAKE Barbadoes aloes one ounce;

Castile soap half an ounce;

Jalap and calomel each two drachms;

Ginger one drachm;

Oils of juniper and aniseed each twenty drops;

Syrup sufficient to form the ball for one dose.

This

This course (of *three* doses) and their operations being minutely attended to, let no care or attention be omitted to bring him as near his former pitch of *strength, appetite, and appearance*, as possible; so soon as he has resumed which, a beginning may be made upon the *last* resource, and from these *only* can the most distant hope of MITIGATION or CURE be formed.

TAKE of Castile soap ten ounces ;

Gum ammoniacum and turmeric each four ounces ;

Salt of tartar three ounces ;

Extract of black hellebore and oil of favin each six drachms ;

Syrup or honey sufficient to make twelve balls.

Of these let one be given regularly every other morning; on the intermediate days give one of the following *mercurial alterative* powders, calculated to give joint assistance without delay, and promote every advantage that can be expected by all possible means, adapted to this distant cause of complaint :

TAKE Æthiop's mineral, prepared antimony, sulphur, and cream of tartar, of each three ounces.—Mix together in the mortar, and divide into twelve papers, giving one, with the feed of corn, every other morning, sprinkling the corn with water to prevent its waste in the manger.

The above balls are calculated (by their peculiar efficacy) to strike at the very root of disease; the reputation of *each* article having been long established either as a *solvent* or *deobstruent*, and evidently adapted to act in concert for the general purpose; no farther experiments or changes need be attempted or undertaken, as this course will absolutely affect all that is in the power of medicine to perform. And should they fail (after fair trial) in the intent for which they may be given, a rupture of the *tumour*, and its becoming *ulcerated*, or a *schirrosity* of the *liver* constantly increasing, will (in opposition to all art and every human endeavour,) usher in *death* to close the scene, and demonstrate the *fallibility*, of all our boasted *specifics*.

Horses are said also to be subject to a regurgitation of bile, from an inflammatory affection  
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of the liver, when occasioned by the bite of any venemous insect or animal, as the viper, low-worm, land-cft, &c. whether such inflammation or bilious appearance is produced by the bite or not, if there are other local symptoms, as swelling, pain, and inflammation, bleeding becomes immediately proper; then let the part be well washed with soap and warm water, so as to raise a substantial lather; wipe dry with a cloth, and bathe the surrounding parts for some minutes with equal portions of fine olive oil and white wine vinegar; afterwards apply a poultice of emollient ingredients, as may be selected by referring to the index, and let it be repeated twice a day till the swelling or symptoms subside. Should the horse be attacked with a violent symptomatic fever to a great degree, adopt the methods recommended in that class; at any rate give one ounce of *nitre* twice a day in his water, and assist in cooling the body by *masbes* to relax, prepared with *malt* and *bran* equal parts, or *oats*, *bran*, and a few ounces of *honey*.

## C L A S S VIII.

THE STRANGLES, GLANDER,  
STAGGERS, AND CONVULSIONS.

## S T R A N G L E S.

Not one feasible reason has ever been adduced why this disease is so general that any horse is hardly ever known to escape; they are even subject to it at all times of life; but the periods of attack are mostly when rising *three, four, or five* years old. SOLEYSELL and GIBSON vainly conceived they threw great light upon the subject, by comparing it to the small-pox, “because,” say they, “young horses are generally its subjects.” “For, says GIBSON, “the blood of young horses may reasonably “enough be supposed unequally fluid, having

“not as yet been sufficiently comminuted by frequent *circulations*.” His *meaning* may be possibly right, but most *unhappily* expressed to make clear his intention: to demonstrate this, let us dissect the phraseology, not assuming the unpleasing task of criticism, but as a prelude to the establishment of our own system hereafter explained. He says “the blood having not as yet been sufficiently comminuted,” that is, in plain terms, or sound English, not properly *pulverised* or reduced to powder: however, I am willing to give him credit for a meaning he did not think fit to explain, and acknowledge he intended to have said (had it not smelt too strong of vulgarity) “sufficiently mixed.” To this remark, notwithstanding its sublimity, I enter my PROTEST; and cannot avoid expressing surprise, that any professional, considerate author, could suppose the blood should incessantly flow for three, four, or five years, without the *crassamentum* and *serum* being sufficiently incorporated or “*comminuted*.”

- I will, upon the occasion, so far suppress my resentment at this feeble attack upon the system of circulation, as to forego the great inclination I feel to enlarge much more upon so prepos-

rous a position, and acknowledge, as no one found reason has ever been given for the cause in question, I shall not presume to introduce any thing dictatorially decisive upon the subject, but submit to the consideration of others, what appears to me to contain every *just* reason that can be assigned for the appearance of a distemper attacking each subject to a certainty, at different periods, without contagion, or any cause hitherto established, but that it is so. For my own part, after affording it every degree of consideration, there is absolutely but one rational cause to be offered why horses, at the periods before mentioned, become *then* subject to this distemper, in a greater or less degree, according to circumstances ; as for instance,

Those horses (or colts) that have been constantly well fed without restraint for three, four, or five years, must, with their food, have imbibed an accumulation of impurities; these having never been once agitated by evacuations, excited by art, or perspiration promoted by exercise, must consequently remain stagnant in the blood, till the horse being brought into use for the purpose he is intended, when the grossness and visciduity that has so long lain dormant



nant soon becomes perceptible; the fluids are too thick, sluggish, and heavy, for their distinct appropriations; the lungs are first overloaded, a languor follows, to that a difficulty of breathing or short cough succeeds; and, lastly, the grand effort of NATURE displays itself in the disease before us: and that is most judiciously made in the glandular parts, where she is nearly adequate to her own work.

This rational progress of the morbid matter has ever affected me so forcibly with the idea of conviction, that nothing but a judicious, clear, and comprehensive elucidation, (divested of surmises and conjectures), demonstrating an opposite cause, can ever reconcile me to *another* opinion. I appeal, without subterfuge or ambiguity, to the professional and enlightened reader, whether this is not the regular process; if this lurking visciditv, this glutinous impurity, is not roused from its latent communication with the juices, and called into action, by bringing the frame into sudden exertions and constant exercise, loaded (in circulation) with the weight that has been so long accumulating without interruption, from either purgatives, diuretics, or even perspiration? If

this is not the *true* cause, why does it not appear before they come within the tree of the saddle, or the trammels of harness? for, experience demonstrates the truth of this observation, that *twenty* horses for either saddle or cart have this distemper after being taken into work, to every *one* attacked with it previous to their being broke and brought into use.

Having introduced thus much to gratify the expectation of every reader anxious for the elucidation of the cause, it becomes necessary to advert to the disease itself; the first attack of which is perceived in a dull, sluggish heaviness and inactivity; the horse becomes dispirited, loses his appetite, is seized with a hollow husky cough, occasioned by the irritability of the inflamed glandular parts in the throat and about the root of the tongue; to excite a degree of moisture in the mouth that may allay this disagreeable sensation, he is often picking his hay, but eats little or none; a degree of symptomatic heat comes on, and consequent clamminess and thirst is perceptible. As the distemper advances, he becomes proportionally languid and inattentive; a swelling (sometimes two or three smaller surround

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) is now discovered to have formed itself beneath the jaw, and in general midway, between the bones, which is at first very hard, becoming painful, and visibly increasing; he now swallows with difficulty, heaves in the ribs, and his whole APPEARANCE evidently shews the necessity of an immediate attempt to relieve Nature from the oppression of her own weight.

The first object for consideration is the state of the subject: if the evacuations are regular (they generally are) and the feverish symptoms moderate, (not approaching to violence) the swelling be examined, and its suppuration promoted. First clip away all the long superfluous *hairs* that cover or surround the part, then foment with small double flannels, dipped in a strong decoction of camomile, marsh-mallows, or rosemary, for ten minutes, as hot as can be conveniently submitted to, and prepare the following *poultices*:

**TAKE** of coarse bread, barley meal, and camomile or elder flowers, each a handful; boil over the fire in a sufficient quantity of milk, or the decoction for the fomentation; into which stir about a third (of the whole quantity) of white lily root, washed clean

clean and pounded to a paste; adding thereto of linseed and foenugreek (in powder) of each an ounce, stirring in, while hot, of turpentine two ounces, and of lard, four, laying it on moderately warm, and bandaging firm.

This proportion is meant for two poultices, as the fomentation should be *repeated*, and the application of poultice *renewed*, every night and morning, till an opening in the swelling is effected; upon which appearance of discharge let the aperture be a little enlarged with a *bistoury*, or the point of any sharp instrument adequate to the purpose; afterwards dressing with tow, spread with the stable digestive ointment, or common yellow basilicon, first made warm, and some of the unguent, (in preference to a tent) plentifully insinuated within the orifice, to facilitate its effect. Over this digestive, for the first two or three dressings, *continue* the poultice; by which treatment, though attended with a little more trouble, you may most assuredly shorten the disease: by this method your discharge will be copious, every symptom will gradually decline, and the cure, under the following aids and regulations, become speedily complete.

Though

Though bleeding is in general a very indifferent practice, where a flux of matter is solicited to any particular part for suppuration, yet circumstances of danger (sometimes) not only justify but powerfully direct a deviation from the path of custom. For instance, should the fever run high, and all other symptoms equally violent, either in the beginning, or during a more advanced state, bleeding must be certainly submitted to, but not in too large quantity. Mashcs must be the constant food, in small proportions, to prevent waste; in each of which put of *liquorice* and *aniseed* powders half an ounce, and about two ounces of *honey*, unless a quart of *malt* is introduced, when the honey may be omitted. The drink should be given little and often, impregnating the warm water with a portion of scalded bran or water-gruel; the head to be kept well covered with a hood, or other temporary substitute, as the warmth will greatly tend to assist in promoting the necessary discharge. When circumstances and weather will permit, the horse should have the advantage of air and short gentle exercise, regular dressing, and the accustomed course of stable discipline, only in a less degree than usual.

It

It is a *consolation* in this distemper, that a symptom of danger seldom occurs, unless from neglect or absolute cruelty in using or driving a horse to extremity in the height of disease, so as to produce great fever and inflammation. The disorder generally *terminates* with a running at the nose, in a greater or less degree, which should be frequently cleansed from the inside of the nostrils, by means of a sponge sufficiently moistened in warm water to prevent its acquiring an adhesion to those parts, or a foulness and foetidity that would shortly become acrimonious and corrosive. When the wound is entirely healed, the horse has regained his appetite, and may be considered perfectly recovered from the languor and debilitation which this complaint constantly produces, he should be put upon a gentle course of mild *mercurial physic*, if there are no circumstances to forbid it: this should be prepared with due attention to his state and condition, selecting it from the variety of *purging prescriptions* afforded by the index under that head. And this becomes the more immediately necessary, should a copious and offensive discharge continue from the nostrils after healing the abscess, and leave room to suspect  
the

the cause is seated upon those internal parts hereafter described in the next article of *Glanders*.

The disorder nearly related to this, and passing under the denomination of *VIVES*, is no other than the same species of disease, only attacking the subject in an infinite less degree; the juices being less corrupted, inflammation is not so readily excited, nor does it arrive at the pitch necessary to produce supuration. The swellings thus fixed, continue some time in a dormant state, the symptoms often light, and indicating no certainty of conclusion by maturation or absorption. If these swellings evidently *increase* (however slowly) and seem to *threaten* a discharge, it is a critical effort of Nature, and must be promoted by the methods already pointed out. On the contrary, should they recede and begin to disappear, embrace the first opportunity to carry off any ill effects that may arise, by a dose or two of *physic*; avoiding, by all means, the ill-advised method of driving them into the circulation by an external application of mercurials. But should such a ridiculous custom be adopted, in compliance with old books or  
ancient

ancient practice, *palliate* the impropriety by *physic*, or a course of *alteratives*.

Where the glandular parts are affected from the palpable effects of cold, and a slight obstruction of the pores by a sudden check in perspiration (as in removing from a warm stable to a cold one on a journey, or some such circumstance that is not always discoverable,) constituting small tumours (called *kernels*) under the ears or throat, *bleed* in proper quantity, *clothe* moderately, give *warm comfortab* *de masbes* for a few nights, and an ounce of *nit* every night and morning in the *water*.

It is necessary to be remarked and well remembered, that the disease we now treat of, by neglect and inattention, sometimes degenerates to a confirmed GLANDERS; a distemper well known to be attended with the inconveniences of difficulty, certain expence, and inevitable danger; and where the circumstance does really occur from the above cause, if the sufferings of the animal were not involved in the event, the loss of the horse would be a very applicable PUNISHMENT to the inhumanity of the master.

GLANDERS.



## G L A N D E R S.

THIS disease has ever been to the fraternity of *Farriers* what the *gout*, *stone*, and *consumption*, have proved to the FACULTY, a never-failing source for constant attendance, long bills, and large sums total. And though, like all other distempers, considered incurable, “ too serious to make a joke of,” I must be indulged in the effusions of fancy naturally arising from a very minute investigation of the cause and its consequences. We are told by those who have preceded us, that “ the cause  
 “ and seat of the glanders have been till lately  
 “ so imperfectly *banded*, and so little under-  
 “ stood by the writers of this distemper, that  
 “ it is no wonder it should be ranked among  
 “ the *incurables*: but a *new* light having been  
 “ thrown upon the whole affair by the study of  
 “ M. LA FOSSE, the King of France’s farrier,  
 “ who has been at the pains to trace out and  
 “ discover, by DISSECTIONS, the source and  
 “ cause of this disorder, we hope the method  
 “ he has proposed, with some *farther* experi-  
 “ ments

“ ments and improvements, will soon bring to  
 “ a certainty of cure (in most cases at least) a  
 “ distemper so dangerous to our horses, and  
 “ that hitherto has eluded the force of art.”

We are then informed M. La Fosse's work  
 “ has the approbation of the Royal Academy  
 “ of Sciences;” that “ he has distinguished  
 “ seven different kinds of glanders, four of  
 “ which are incurable;” much more is intro-  
 duced to corroborate his opinions, and give  
 weight to the *very nice* distinctions that con-  
 stitute this *great variety* of glanders. He then  
 introduces a most elaborate description of the  
*necessary* operation of trepanning, with an ex-  
 planatory plate so *invitingly* finished, that the  
 appearance of the apparatus is almost suf-  
 ficient to induce any man to have his horse's  
 head perforated (or *laid open*), merely to in-  
 dulse in the happiness of becoming a volun-  
 tary dupe to M. LA FOSSE's experiments.

His cures, *almost incredible*, are then enu-  
 merated; you are told of *three* horses he tre-  
 panned, each in two places: the internal parts  
 were constantly syringed, and they were per-  
 fectly recovered; “ the wound and perfora-  
 “ tion

“~~tion~~ filling up in twenty-six days, the  
 “ horses suffering *no inconvenience* from the  
 “ operation, though after this experiment  
 “ they were PUT TO DEATH.” Many  
 quotations might be introduced upon which I  
 could much enlarge; but, in so doing, such  
 observations would unavoidably extend to too  
 great a length; and, as some just satire upon  
 such unaccountable absurdities must appear,  
 I shall endeavour to render it perfectly appli-  
 cable to the subject before us.

In the first instance, it may not be amiss to  
 make proper acknowledgments to the French  
 king's farrier, and his *trumpeter*, Mr. BARTLET,  
 for dividing and subdividing *one* into *seven*  
 distinct (or *imaginary*) diseases: in short,  
 upon accurate investigation, we find the fertile  
 M. LA FOSSE (and his echo) have defined six  
 different discharges from the nostrils to consti-  
 tute so many (*nominal*) glanders, and then de-  
 scribe a seventh, and tell us that is the “ *real*  
 “ glanders.” It is impossible to pass over the  
*finesse* of the Frenchman, or the kindness and  
*credulity* of his copist, without saying some-  
 thing in animadversion upon this attempt to  
 impose upon the world in general, without

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even

even the basis of consistency for a foundation.

To take this business a little methodically, it may not be inapplicable (without any offence to M. LA FOSSE or the Royal Academy of Sciences, who so *generously* patronised his great discoveries) to introduce a short story, many years in circulation, of the celebrated witty dean of St. Patrick, who, holding in great contempt the learned acquisition of F. R. S. addressed a letter to the PRESIDENT, “ requesting him to take the sense of the body “ upon the *peculiar* properties of *bemp*, that it “ should, upon application, *immediately* cure a “ fractured leg !” This letter (from so great a man) being communicated to the “ FEL- “ LOWS,” in full assembly, was productive of sequestered studies, nocturnal lucubrations, and various experiments to almost every individual ; numerous meetings were held ; but consultation and emulation producing no discovery, at the end of three weeks a second letter arrived from the dean, “ soliciting par- “ don for an omission in his last, which was “ to inform the society that the LEG *was of* “ WOOD.” I introduce this circumstance not

is a burlesque upon so great and learned a body, but to prove that such, as well as individuals, are liable to error and misconception.

My predecessor (as I have before remarked) then says, “with some farther experiments and *improvements* he hopes this distemper will be brought to a certainty of cure.” Now what he can wish or desire by “farther experiments and improvements,” is beyond my abilities to discover: he descends most minutely to the operation of trepanning; or, in plainer terms, taking two pieces of bone out of different parts of the skull by perforation, then plentifully *soaking* with detergent *lotions*, adding a variety of instructions for *injections*, *dressings*, &c. to complete a cure of what, *till then*, had been considered incurable. To keep up the farce of inconsistency, we are at last confidently assured that such operations being performed, “after opening the cavities, should it by *probing* be discovered that the bones are carious, (or, in other words, *rotten*) the best way *then* will be to dispatch the horse, to save unnecessary trouble and expence.” I cannot resist the temptation I feel to trans-

pose this language, and display it in plain *English* thus. In fact, deprive the horse of half his head, in compliment to the *pecuniary* feelings of the farrier, and if you find the remaining half will not answer the purpose of the whole, cut his throat, or shoot him through the head, to save the *operator's* credit. Previous to the serious investigation of this case, I must beg permission (in imitation of my *learned* predecessor H. BRACKEN, M. D.) to introduce a *second* story not altogether inapplicable to this complicated chapter upon heads.

A certain chemist having dedicated much *time, trouble, and expence*, to the preparation of a *balsamic elixir*, brought it at *last* to so great a degree of perfection that it would, upon the first application, instantaneously *incarnate, cicatrize* and *cure* a wound of the most dreadful appearance. Having confirmed the discovery by a number of inferior instances, he applied to his friend and servant John to sit down and have his head taken off and replaced with the *elixir*, to demonstrate its efficacy. But John, knowing his duty better, declined in compliment to his master, who, he  
*insisted*

*insisted* upon it, was entitled to the PREFERENCE, as the original inventor, and consequently to *all* the credit and emolument; the master, (but not without some reluctance) submitted to the equity of John's decision, who separated his master's head from the body most *chirurgically*; when, having plentifully *basted* both *head* and *trunk*, with the *elixir* of all *elixirs*, he instantly replaced it; when, to the happy admiration of both master and man, the former (after a temporary torpidude) recovering, walked towards the looking-glass, where, finding his face turned towards the shoulders, accused his confidant of having put his head on the WRONG way; who most prudently and judiciously replied, he had so placed it to ensure his master's *credit*; for he was very certain if he had not, the world would never have believed it had been off.

I am induced once more to solicit pardon of the Academy of Sciences, M. LA FOSSE, and the admirers of BARTLET's theory, for the introduction of this "experiment and improvement," submitting the inference entirely to those gentlemen who have (unluckily at this moment) glandered horses in their possessions.

It would be rather inattentive and remiss in me to pass over the uncharitableness, or rather cruelty, of dooming to death the *three* horses so *trepanned, syringed, and completely* cured by M. LA FOSSE “in twenty-six days ;” unless we are to conceive the *possibility* of putting “them “ to death” on the twenty-sixth day, to avoid their natural dissolution on the *twenty-seventh*, the better to ensure the honour of the boasted discovery, and the additional “ approbation “ of the Royal Academy of Sciences.”

This *possibility* may be very *probable*, and indeed is no unjustifiable or unfashionable policy in physician, farrier, or quack, as every newspaper amply testifies ; they daily abound with singular, miraculous, *incredible (imaginary)* cures, constantly effected by mercurial or antimonial nostrums, but not a *single word* of the HUNDREDS that annually fall victims to the necessities of medical adventurers, who, with *fortune* sufficient to pay for an *advertisement*, half a score *phials*, a *solution* of *mercury*, or a quart of *soap lees*, boldly commence their depredations upon the public ; and this they are now the more *entitled* to do by their extensive contribution to the exigencies of

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government,



government, whose STAMP of approbation they are in possession of; and a report is in circulation, that *one* is at present preparing at the office for their sole dispensation, with the very emphatical inscription of “Kill or cure by act of Parliament.”

A long experience, and a want of fashionable flexibility, have established in me so great a degree of incredulity, that I am totally insensible to the novelty of a *man* in a *quart bottle*, a *ghost* in *Cock-lane*, the taking off *one half* of a horse's head to relieve the *other*, or curing every (*incurable*) disease to which human nature is liable, by a *mercurial drop*, an *antimonial pill*, a *vegetable syrup*, or an *æthereal spirit*: I shall descend therefore from the sublimity of so much *eminence*, and, gently gliding into the vale of reason, resume the original path from which it will be undoubtedly thought by some I have digressed MUCH too long.

It consequently becomes necessary to observe that upon whatever part this disease has taken its seat, it has been considered by almost all parties, and through almost all experiments,

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absolutely

absolutely incurable. To corroborate an opinion so universally received and admitted, it does not appear to me that a tedious technical description of its true seat, ascertaining it to be in "the pituitary membrane, the maxillary sinuses, the frontal sinuses, or cavities above the orbits of the eyes," can give additional weight, or enlighten the understanding of the reader. The dull discouraging description of a misfortune, to evade the ultimate force of which there is no probable (or indeed possible) appearance, can prove but a very slender consolation; I therefore disclaim the idea of attempting imposition upon any application that may be made to this work for information, and heartily condemn the *ridiculous* belief of SEVEN distinct kinds of glanders, and the still more ridiculous discrimination by which they are *pretended* to be brought about. They are so truly *puerile* and *nugatory* that a medical man may (with as *much* appearance of *truth* and *reason*) madly attempt to justify the absolute existence of seven kinds of *small-pox* or *measles*, according to their different stages or gradations. The true state of *his* representation (divested of its *necessary* ambiguity) is *plainly* this; he has mutilated, separated, and

com-

complicated, a variety of symptoms, endeavouring to form distinctions that may keep up the farce, and support the opinion he advances, which neither the case or circumstances will admit; for the obtruding penetration of any professional instantly plucks off the mask of speculation, and the intentional deception recoils upon the author with additional disgrace.

To demonstrate the case more comprehensively or clearly, the fact appears, that any corrosive matter discharged from the nostrils, and suffered to continue for a length of time, so as to constitute ulcerations and corrode the bones, will inevitably degenerate into, and constitute, the disease generally understood by the appellation of glanders; every stagnant, acrimonious, or putrid matter, is possessed of this property, and more particularly when lodged (or by sinuses confined) upon any particular part. Divested of professional TRICK, CHICANERY, and DECEPTION, this is the incontrovertible explanation, whether proceeding from an ulceration of the lungs, or the inveterate glandular discharges from the head (where the case is of long-standing, and the bone carious) they are equally *incurable*. Persevering

fevering in my opinion, long since quoted, that *prevention* is preferable to *cure*, I shall point out such methods as are the most eligible to adopt, upon the bare apprehension of such complaint, or any disorder that may be likely to terminate in a disease of so much difficulty, expence, and danger.

In respect to the medical and domestic management; where the lungs are the seat of disease, as in the first attack of coughs, &c. directions so clear and explanatory are laid down through the whole of the sixth class, that there is not the least room to add a single addition upon the subject; to that class, under its different heads, I refer the reader for any instructions that a variety of symptoms may render necessary. But where a swelling or tumour gives ocular proof that matter is forming under the ears, jaws, or between the bones (about the root of the tongue), take every possible method to produce a suppuration and discharge of matter; for, in most cases, an external evacuation becomes the crisis, and greatly preferable to the chance of mischiefs that may be the result of repulsion, particularly where the matter is in an unhealthy state, and  
calculated

culated to communicate its morbid effects with virulence wherever it takes its seat; which, on being repelled and compulsively absorbed into the circulation, it will of course be empowered to do, if not speedily carried off, by mercurial or antimonial preparations.

Should *cough* or *difficulty of breathing* attend, draw blood from a remote vein in moderate quantity, to mitigate either of those symptoms; but neither being present, let the operation be omitted, unless particularly urged or indicated by a great degree of inflammatory heat. So soon as the swellings about the neck, head, or throat, have acquired a palpable prominence, foment twice a day with the following decoction:

TAKE camomile, wormwood, marshmallows, and elder flowers, of each a large handful; boil in three quarts of water for a quarter of an hour; then strain off, and foment the swelling well with flannels dipped in the hot liquid, and apply the herbs warm by way of poultice to the parts, confining them on, and repeating the ceremony for two or three days.

By this time some degree of observation may be made whether the tumours tend to suppu-

suppuration, if so, they will increase in size, becoming pliable or soft to pressure in the middle; in which case apply the poultice, and proceed as directed in the Strangles, p. 281. On the contrary, should the swellings continue hard and immoveable, a running coming on at the nose, let notice be taken whether the matter is of a kind, white, healthy appearance, without smell, and discoloured; or bearing different tinges, and streaked with blood; if the former, it is favourable, and the complaint may be first treated as directed under the articles of cold and cough, p. 200; but should it prove of the last description, care should be taken to ascertain the fact, that every precaution may be used in its infancy, to prevent what may soon become a case of trouble and disquietude. At any rate the following plan should be adopted without delay:

**TAKE** rosemary, lavender flowers, southernwood and marjoram, of each a handful; boil in two or three quarts of water; and, putting into a pail, let the horse's head be fixed over it as near as possible, so long as the fumes passing up the nostrils can be supposed to take effect as an internal fomentation.

By

By this method the viscid and glutinous matter may be softened in the passages, and the inflammatory stricture taken off the tumefied glands. This operation should be repeated twice every day : all the practice and preparations recommended under the heads of coughs and strangles, with glandular discharges from the nostrils, may be referred to, and such methods persevered in as are there pointed out, most applicable to prevalent symptoms and concurring circumstances.

Should the discharge continue to increase in quantity and virulence, becoming very offensive both in colour and smell, not only continue the before-mentioned fumigation, but throw up either nostril, (or both, if the matter should be so discharged) with a strong forcible syringe, half a gill of the following injection three or four times a day, first made milk warm, and then thrown up with the full power of the instrument :



TAKE of linseed one ounce ;

Camomile and elder flowers each half an ounce ;  
boil in three pints of water for some minutes,  
then strain off and add *mel Ægyptiacum* (or  
Egyptian honey), four ounces, mixing well  
together at each time of using.

If the matter bears all those appearances of malignancy that threaten a corrosion and rottenness of the bones, continue incessant in the use of both fumigation and injection, putting the horse immediately upon a mild course of unction in the following way : Let *two*, or at most *three*, drachms of the strong *mercurial ointment* be very well rubbed into the glandular tumours, under the throat or ears, every night for a fortnight; first taking away with the scissars all superfluous or long hairs, that the mercurial particles may be with more certainty absorbed by the vessels, and taken into the circulation. If the owner of a horse labouring under this difficulty wishes, like a drowning man, to avail himself of ANOTHER twig, he may call in the aid of mercurial physic, or alterative medicines ; from a variety of which, choice may be made by referring to the index, and making examination under those heads; an exact repetition of the numerous prescriptions being evidently unnecessary where so little can be expected from their effects.

Opinions have ever been different respecting this disease being communicated by infection; and though some have *affected* to oppose  
the



the idea, they obliquely coincide in opinion, by acknowledging it is much the safest way to  
“separate the sound from the unsound, and  
“not run any hazard with a good horse when  
“it may be so easily avoided.” Whether we  
consider this as a necessary caution, or a proof  
of conviction, the maxim is equally respect-  
able, and should be constantly retained in the  
memory. Where there is the least reason to  
suspect even a probability of danger from the  
very chance of contagion; and more particu-  
larly since the prevalence of opinion has re-  
duced the belief of infection to almost a cer-  
tainty, no person can hardly be found suffi-  
ciently *fool-hardy* to place a sound horse in a  
stable where one stands, or is said to have  
lately stood, with this distemper upon him.

It again becomes unavoidably necessary to  
make a few additional remarks upon the  
boasted operation and discovery of M. LA  
FOSSE, from which such great and extensive  
advantages would have *probably* been obtained,  
had the ungenerous act been prevented of  
taking away the lives of his *three* patients, after  
they had withstood the *glanders*, a double per-

foration in (or drilling of) the *skull*, repeated *washings* of the *brains* with detergent injections, and a subsequent *regeneration* of *parts*, that the operations *may* have been performed as described, and the horse (or ~~three~~ horses) may have lived twenty-six days, I do not attempt to deny, nor is it in *my* power to disprove; but this I will boldly venture to affirm, that the certain *expence* and *hazard* can be but a very slender *lottery chance* for any proprietor who may unluckily have a horse labouring under the extremity of this dreadful disease.

I cannot believe, nor indeed do I expect, disinterestedness can ever become so truly triumphant, as to permit any farrier to be so great an enemy to his own interest as to recommend DEATH, or discourage the expectation of CURE, so long as circumstances and the persuasive power of his rhetoric can justify the idea of hope; but how far it may be worth while to encounter the difficulties of anxiety, tedious expence, long sickness, attendance, perpetual nursing, and the danger of infecting whatever horses remain in, or may come to  
the

the stable, is more the duty of others to consider than me to point out.

Contracting therefore all the attending considerations into one point of view, I shall openly and fairly enter my opinion against the operation of *trepanning*, so plausibly held forth with all its specious advantages. For what does the whole amount to more than this?—If the horse should absolutely recover, and (what is still more unlikely) become adequate to the very purposes he was destined to before the attack; when the *long illness, support, attendance, and farrier's bill*, are balanced against his *VALUE*, he must be a most excellent horse, and very much above the line of mediocrity, to have the *credit* accompt in his favour. In fact, the most probable conjecture is, his inevitable dissolution; but, should he miraculously escape from both the distemper and operator, ranking under the denomination of a *cured horse*, he may, perhaps, be *then qualified* to linger out a wretched existence in some park or pasture, but *never* enabled to encounter labour or fatigue.

The “ task of justice thus performed,” I take leave of this subject, with an earnest recommendation to all classes never to neglect horses, in the slightest degree, when attacked with colds, coughs, strangles, a running at the nose, or indeed any other complaint that may, either by a rapid or gradual progression, degenerate to a disease of so much trouble, difficulty, and danger. The rational system of practice in this disorder may be forcibly repeated, and inculcated in a very few words. So long as the attack continues in its early and simple state, be industriously attentive to the execution of such instructions as are given under the different heads of those symptoms that are then most predominant; but, should patience and fair trial demonstrate the non-submission of disease and inefficacy of medicine, the glands or kernels under the jaw-bone continuing during the whole course inflexible, the matter first tinged with blood, then becoming deep in colour and most offensive in smell, the carcase emaciated, and the whole frame sinking under universal depression, the *first* loss will be *ultimately* best, in a resignation of his hide to the collar-maker, and his remains to the hounds.

Before

Before I close my observations upon this disease, let it be well understood, that during the whole course of management, the head of the horse is to be kept as warm as possible, and in proportion much more so than the body, either in a double kersey hood, or a single external, and a flannel (or feat cotton) one underneath; for, it may readily be conceived (without much information) nothing can contribute more to a solution of the humours and promotion of their discharge, than a critical relaxation of the pores, particularly upon the very seat of disease: from this consideration arises conviction, that assisting circumstances co-operate with and are as necessary as the external or internal administration of medicine; experience having afforded ample proof that a combination may effect what is not in the power of individuals to perform.

The strong mercurial ointment directed for the repulsion of Glandular tumours under this head, as also in the Farcy (p. 143) may be procured at any medical dispensary by that name, or thus prepared:

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TAKE

**TAKE** quicksilver four ounces ;

Hog's lard half a pound ;

Balsam of sulphur (or turpentine) half an ounce.

Rub the quicksilver well in a mortar, with the balsam of sulphur or turpentine, till they are so well incorporated that the globules disappear, then add the lard (just warm and liquified) by small quantities, that may be sufficiently smooth, and let it be kept close covered for use.

## STAGGERS AND CONVULSIONS.

A MULTIPPLICITY of long standing distinctions, constituting a variety of different diseases in former practice, have, by nice attention, in modern improvement, been nearly reduced to the two heads under which we now write ; that is, such disorders as principally affect the head, having their seat in the brain or vessels leading thereto. In this description are included those that have been formerly distinguished under separate heads, as Apoplexy, Convulsions, Epilepsy, Stag-Evil, Palsy, &c. but as such investigations (founded as they must be mostly upon conjecture) will evidently extend the thread of information to an indeterminate

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minate degree of refinement, I shall decline entering into the explanatory parts, so minutely and tediously defined upon former occasions, reciting only the general system upon which the cause is founded, and then proceed to quote from others circumstances that may justify the bringing such a variety of disorders into a single point of view.

How far the pretended accuracy of formerly distinguishing one of these diseases from another, may be reconciled to modern comprehension, or generally credited, I know not; but confess, where the whole formation of judgment and decision is to rest upon the penetration of the observer only, and no information come from the patient, circumstances could or can but very seldom combine to form so singular a distinction. Experience and observation may undoubtedly do much in a collection of similitudes and probabilities, but never enough to ascertain the distinct invariable causes and effects of diseases, where the most trifling difference is hardly acknowledged; more particularly when it is considered that the cause of nearly all these disorders is in the original seat of nervous irritability,

tability; the brain ; or in those parts connected with, or dependant upon, its structure and purposes ; except when they are understood to be symptomatic, or depending upon some original remote cause ; as the effect of bots preying upon the stomach or intestines ; internal ulcerations, or complaints not immediately discoverable ; these may sometimes happen, but very rarely to affect the frame with symptoms so truly alarming.

To avoid entering into new descriptions and unentertaining definitions, that must be technical to be accurate, and consequently extended to a length that can neither gratify the expectation or improve the judgment of the general reader, I shall, in as concise a way as the subject will permit, introduce an abridgment from the opinions of GIBSON, which is in fact furnishing the whole advanced by his successors ; who, without exception, generously transmitted his ideas, and informations, forgetting (or omitting) to elucidate the subject with any brilliant observations of their own.

“ APOPLEXY (says he) is usually defined  
 “ a privation of sense and motion, excepting  
 “ only a languid one in the heart and breast ;  
 “ and



and this either proceeds from a cause without the vessels, viz. when the blood or any other fluid happens to break out of some vessel within the brain, or when there happens to be preternatural bones or tumours bred and contained within the skull, or any other extraneous matter that may, in any sort, press upon the soft substance of the brain, causing those deadly disorders. But this is a species that is incurable, and, for the most part, seizes suddenly, without any foregoing tokens or warnings. Thus in an APOPLEXY sense and motion are in a manner quite lost, because of the pressure that is made upon the origin of all the nerves that arise from the head: but, in a VERTIGO, objects that are at rest appear as if they were turning round, and by that means occasion any creature to reel and stagger; and this proceeds from the vibrations and tremors of the optic nerve, whereby the images falling not directly but successively upon the different parts of the *retina*, an object that is at rest will therefore appear as if turning round; and this may be occasioned either when an animal is fearful of falling, or from a repletion or overfulness

“ of those arteries which are situated near the  
 “ optic nerve, which, by pressing upon the  
 “ brain, will cause a shaking in that nerve.

“ Now (says he) if we examine a little care-  
 “ fully into all the different appearances of  
 “ that distemper which farriers call *the staggers*,  
 “ we shall find them reducible to one of  
 “ these maladies above described.” He then  
 proceeds to prove that the staggers may be  
 the effect of either; then mentions an attack  
 when the horse is first turned to grass, after  
 a day or two's full feeding, and defines that  
 apoplectic; and a fourth, that is, “ either  
 “ a true apoplexy, or a vertigo, or perhaps  
 “ both.” I omit enlarging here upon these  
 palpable absurdities and direct contradictions,  
 quoting them to demonstrate the inconsistency  
 of following him through all these *turnings*  
 and *windings*, to establish a professional mystery  
 in deceptively attempting to ascertain distinc-  
 tions where none can with truth or certainty  
 be formed.

“ The following evil, or convulsions, (he  
 “ says) is that which, in the physician's terms,  
 “ comes under the denomination of an  
 “ *Epilepsy*,

“ *Epilepsy*, and seems to be no other than an  
 “ APOPLEXY OR VERTIGO, accompanied with  
 “ convulsions, either as the cause or effect.”  
 This being a kind of synonymous ambiguity,  
 I shall so consider it, and revert to his defini-  
 tion of *convulsions* at large; where he says,  
 “ The cause of convulsions is, first, whatever  
 “ wastes and exhausts the body, or any of  
 “ its parts; as the taking away too much  
 “ blood, violent purging, hard labour, or long  
 “ sickness. Secondly, whatever fills the body  
 “ too much, and gives origin to obstructions  
 “ in the blood vessels or nerves, or brings  
 “ a debility and weakness into the stomach;  
 “ and, lastly, wounds, or whatever else causes  
 “ pain and inflammation: as to the cure it is  
 “ the same with that of APOPLEXY and VER-  
 “ TIGO.” He has thus technically and ab-  
 strusely laboured through a multiplicity of close  
 written pages to perplex the mind and con-  
 found the judgment, misleading his readers by  
 repeated attempts to prove the distinct existence  
 of all these separate diseases; though at the  
 conclusion of each description, he acknow-  
 ledges they are nearly synonymous, and come  
 directly under the same methods of cure,

This is absolutely the fact brought into the compass of truth, and will exculpate me from the accusation of neglect or deception in not treating separately upon such diseases ; and, by introducing a train of *imaginary* symptoms, endeavour to give the appearance of weight to what must be termed a mere matter of conjecture. As they are disorders that luckily happen but seldom, I shall confine myself to their description and treatment as the *staggers* and *convulsions* only ; the instructions necessary for the management of those being universally admitted adequate to the intentional cure of the long list of *et cæteras*.

Horses, upon the approach of any of those disorders, whose seat is directly in the brain, or nervous system, display a previous weakness and inactivity, seeming to move reluctantly, reeling or staggering in their walk, frequently blinking their eyes, as feeling some awkward depression or uneasiness from the effect of light ; they are averse to handling, and brought out of the stable with difficulty : in time, a visible tremor comes on, and after reeling (or frequently turning round, if loose) they

they fall almost lifeless to the ground, having the perceptible power of breathing only, but that in a degree of violence and agitation: this is termed the APOPLEXY, or STAGGERS, admitted synonymous and similar in cause, symptoms, and effects.

The great variety of symptoms that have been hitherto worked up to a pitch of extravagance, excited a degree of credulity to the discrimination of these diseases, would render it a palpable burlesque upon the subject to go over a similar ground; they having included and enumerated every possible symptom (common to all distempers) in the description of this class, determined to include the *whole*, that no *one* circumstance might be wanting to justify their assertions, or confirm their judgment. Whether it is Epilepsy, Palsy, Convulsions, or Stag-evil, symptoms are amply furnished: we are repeatedly told “The  
“ horse reels and staggers; his eyes are fixed  
“ in his head; he has no sense of what he is  
“ doing; he stales and dungs insensibly; he  
“ runs round and falls suddenly; *sometimes*  
“ he is immoveable, with his legs stretched out.

“ as if he was dead, except only a quick motion  
 “ of his heart and lungs, which causes a violent  
 “ working of his flanks ; *sometimes* he has in-  
 “ voluntary motions and shaking of his limbs  
 “ so strong, that he has not only beat and  
 “ spurned his litter, but the pavement with it.”

Here is ample proof how much I might indulge myself in playing upon the alternatives they admit, so *cautiously* guarded with their *adverb* of possibility ; I could introduce a very long chain of quotations in the same style of ambiguity or duplicity, plentifully interspersed with their favourite safeguard “ *sometimes* he is  
 “ up, and *sometimes* he is down ; and *sometimes* he  
 “ is hot, and *sometimes* he is cold ; *sometimes* they  
 “ recover, and *sometimes* they prove mortal.”  
 &c. but it has ever been the intent of this work to make the CAUSE, SYMPTOMS, and CURE of every disease, as clear as the nature of each case will admit ; being unavoidably interspersed with medical remarks and occasional explanations, where technical terms could not be evaded ; I shall therefore revert no more to a succession or repetition of symptoms, where enough has been already pointed out to explain to any rational observer a case originating in the causes we

now

ow treat of; and which ever it is, or to what denomination it is most properly entitled, the seat of disease being the same, the cure must be corresponding: but in these, and in all other disorders, a little judgment must be exerted to regulate the treatment by circumstances, as symptoms cannot on every occasion be collected from books, or be found in one distemper always the same.

Diseases originating in the most abstruse recesses of nature, and that will admit such a complication of constructions, may proceed from a variety of causes clearly comprehended; as, in all probability, they may likewise from many that we are entirely unacquainted with. Among the former is that cause originating in the premature increase of the velocity of the blood, instantaneously affecting the brain; as is annually confirmed by the loss of hundreds, in madly exceeding the bounds of humanity, and exhausting the strength and power of an animal made by Nature sufficiently strong to bear most every task the degeneracy or avarice of man could be supposed to invent. In corroboration of this circumstance, of the premature deaths occasioned by increasing the velocity of the

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the blood beyond the limits prescribed by Nature, I present to the reader's imagination that infinity of most beautiful horses that upon every principal road in England constantly fall victims to the rapidity of MAIL COACHES, FLYING MACHINES, DILLIES, and POST TRAVELLERS; more particularly in the extreme heat of summer, when they are seen daily dying martyrs to the eagerness of *impatient* travellers, or the innate cruelty of inhuman drivers. To these some (but a very few) of private property may be added, hard drove upon long and speedy journies, and others imprudently rode, and improperly managed, during chases of great length, in strong deep countries, with fleet hounds.

Others become the subjects of these disorders from great irritation (with severe and excruciating pains) in the stomach and bowels; the powerful effects of worms or bots in the intestinal canal; sharp acrid medicines; a repulsion of any morbid matter from the surface, without its being carried off by proper evacuations; or wounds, dislocations, &c. They are frequently known to attack *very* suddenly, and terminate in death *very* speedily; at others the approach.



approach is indicated by the symptoms before recited. The most rational methods of cure will be to correct or discharge the primary cause, to allay the spasms, and to reduce the extreme degree of irritability, by strengthening the nervous system ; the causes of irritation are not only remote but various, and relief must consequently be occasionally obtained by different means.

The first step to cure will be, at all events, to draw blood, and that in quantity according to exigencies and the state of your subject. In cases of real alarm and danger bleed in two veins remote from each other, to cause the greater revulsion. Although it becomes absolutely necessary to stimulate and rouse the animal powers after the paroxysm, little can be done during the fit ; however, a glyster may be prepared, according to the following directions, and given as soon as possible.

If the cause is ascertained (or supposed) to proceed from an increased velocity of the blood, and consequent inflammation upon the brain, give the glyster prescribed in p. 45 : if from extreme irritation in the stomach and bowels,

give the *domestic glyster*, p. 239, with the addition of liquid laudanum half an ounce. If the continual preying and depredations of bots, or worms, are the cause, give for the present, the following *glyster*; and so soon as the horse is sufficiently recovered to go through the course, proceed as directed under that head:

TAKE of rue, favin, and wormwood, each a handful; boil a quarter of an hour in two quarts of water, with four ounces of common salt; then strain and add tincture of asafoetida two ounces, olive oil a quarter of a pint, and let it be thrown up moderately warm.

If the complaint proceeds from a too free use of sharp or acid medicines, make an addition of two ounces of Venice treacle, and three drachms of liquid laudanum to the common *domestic glyster* before specified. For similar complaints, proceeding from indeterminate causes, the *glyster*, p. 45, will be undoubtedly applicable.

Should spasms or convulsions prove so violent that, by a contraction of the muscles, the jaws are locked, or fixed, for any considerable length of time (the fit being of long duration),  
recourse

recourse must be had to nutritive glysters, that the frame may be supported, notwithstanding its inability to receive aliment by other means. These may be prepared of different kinds, as broths, gruel, milk pottage, calf's feet jelly, thin; or a decoction of ground rice mixed with starch. So soon as the fit is sufficiently off, to admit the advantage of medicine, give the following BALL, if it can be conveniently administered :

TAKE myrrh, ammoniacum and asafoetida, of each  
three drachms ;  
Ruslia castor, and camphire, each a drachm ;  
Syrup sufficient to make the ball.

This should be repeated every ten or twelve hours, for two or three days, or till the absence of the fit leaves no apprehension of return. Where circumstances or symptoms may render a drink more convenient, the following may be prepared and given at the above stated intervals :

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TAKE.

TAKE of valerian root and horseradish root (scraped or sliced) each two ounces ;

Virginian snake root and mustard seed (bruised) each one ounce ; upon these pour three pints of boiling water ; let them be covered close ; and when nearly cold enough for use, strain through a cloth, using pressure to the ingredients, that the whole may be extracted. *Half* of this to be given for one dose, and repeated in six, eight, or ten hours, as circumstances may require.

In cases of danger, and at a great distance from towns where the above articles cannot be immediately obtained, substitute a strong infusion of rue, camomile, horseradish, mustard, or pennyroyal ; taking two ounces of each of the *three* that can be most expeditiously procured, and pour upon them three pints of boiling water ; let them stand till nearly cool, strain off, and give the proportion above directed, repeating it as there specified ; remembering this is prescribed only as a temporary substitute till more powerful reliefs can be obtained ; and not by any means to be put in competition with the efficacious stimulants before recommended.

When the fit is gone off, should the subject be left in a kind of stupor or nervous debilitation, with spasms or twitchings in the stomach and bowels that occasion great pain, it will be readily perceived, and more particularly ascertained by his frequent looking back to one side or the other, with his nose towards the seat of pain, and his uneasy shifting from place to place. In such case anodynes will afford the greatest certainty of relief; therefore give either the following *ball* or *drink* so soon as convenient :

TAKE galbanum, asafoetida, and storax pill, each half an ounce;

Syrup of diacodium sufficient to make the ball.

Or,

TAKE of valerian root one ounce and a half, snake root half an ounce; let both be bruised to a gross powder, and infuse in boiling water a pint and a quarter, with saffron two drachms; when sufficiently cool, strain off, and add tincture of asafoetida one ounce, liquid laudanum two drachms, giving the whole a little warm.

If the spasms or twitchings are frequent and violent, the drink will be preferable to the ball,

as coming by much the readiest into action and effect. Where this medicine cannot be given as a drink, it may as a glyster, either with or without the saffron, repeating it at any distance of time that occasion or circumstances may require.

Should any local paralytic affection, or contraction of the muscle, produce a stiffness or inactivity upon any particular part, friction, with strong penetrating embrocations, must be immediately brought into use and persevered in ; of that class are the following :

**TAKE** oil of Barbadoes tar eight ounces ;

Æthereal oil of turpentine and camphorated spirits of wine, each four ounces.—Mix together, and let the affected parts be substantially bathed with such proportion as may be adequate to the case, every night and morning.

Or,

**TAKE** opodeldoc six ounces ;

Oils of origanum, amber, and wormwood, of each half an ounce.—Mix well together, and use as above.

Which.

Whichever is adopted (though the former is certainly the first in power and highest in estimation) must be rubbed into whatever part may be affected, with great patience and assiduity, as nothing but length of time and perseverance in the operation can effect a sufficient penetration to the remote seat of complaint. Horses that are of a full plethoric habit, when attacked with this disease, should, so soon after recovery as they are able to bear it, be brought under a course of regular evacuations, such as are most applicable to their size, state, constitution, and condition. If they are inclined to fluctuating acrimonious humours, or viscid heavy foulness, let purges be soon brought into use; and introduce a rowel, if the case indicates the propriety, taking off somewhat of their former high feeding. If the stomach and bowels have been the seat of disease from irritability, either by internal weakness or improper treatment, assist the general system with a dozen of the *restorative cordial balls* (p. 209.) after a proper continuance of the nervous medicines, letting one be given every morning. If from worms, so soon as he is sufficiently recovered from the

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alarming

alarming state of disease, give one of the *mercurial purging balls*, according to his state and temperament, regulating the course as particularly explained in p. 261 and 262.

The general and proper mode of treatment in every stage of these complaints having been explicitly introduced, I shall beg leave to observe, prescriptions and compositions innumerable might be added, in compliance with custom, to give the subject an appearance of greater weight, by prolonging, extending, and varying, the methods of cure. But the fact is, such class of medicines are at once brought forward for *every* disease, as are well established and high in estimation for their different effects, that paltry, extraneous, deceptive aids, may be totally rejected, to prevent unnecessary trouble, expence, and disappointment. In the present we have nearly *abandoned* the ancient practice; we applaud no “burning setons with  
“red hot irons,” recommend no “chewing  
“balls to champ upon,” composed of *asafetida*, *jacin*, and a combination of articles to create a nausea, and render the stomach eternally uneasy: nor do we adopt the system of  
“stitching



“ stitching up in the ears *garlic, rue, aqua*  
“ *vitæ, cloves, ginger, and bay salt,*” either as  
remedies or provocatives to madness ; but sub-  
mit to public consideration and practice such  
methods of treatment and cure as are founded  
on the basis of safety, reason, and experience.

## C L A S S . IX.

CHOLIC, SCOURING, AND MOLTEN  
GREASE.

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C H O L I C.

It has been a professional custom, time immemorial, to distinguish every disorder of the stomach and bowels producing extreme pain, by the denomination of GRIPES, or THE FRET ; though little has been produced by the best writers to explain the different causes, and still less to establish a consistent method of cure. This deficiency, it must be acknowledged, has not arisen from a want of prescriptions ; on the contrary, they have been most liberally dispensed ; but when the great variety of recipes that have been offered to public experiment become subject to the accurate

curate inspection of the *enlightened* practitioner, they may perhaps appear to be more the collected effusions of *fancy* than the effect of *judgment*. As it is not, however, the present intention to divert the mind to former modes of practice, let us endeavour to make the distinct causes of complaint properly understood, previous to the introduction of such course of medicines as *experience* has clearly demonstrated most safe and applicable to the relief of diseases, upon which we proceed to treat.

The disorders to which horses are most subject in the stomach and bowels (exclusive of those occasioned by worms and bots, already separately treated on) are those *kinds* of Cholic which it will be necessary to distinguish as the *flatulent* and *inflammatory*. The Flatulent Cholic is that species of intestinal pain, occasioned by an accumulation and retention of wind, which, by its expanding force, in a constant fluctuation and effort for discharge, extends the stomach and intestines to a certain degree (or perhaps their utmost elasticity); when coming into direct opposition with the contracting power of the abdominal muscles, certain pain is excited in a greater or less degree,

degree, according to the circumference and extension of the parts, the collection of confined air, and the proportional spasm produced by its effects.

This kind of Cholic comes on suddenly, and may, in general, be readily distinguished by the rumbling of the imprisoned air through the intestines for vent or discharge. It is occasioned by hasty and full feeding after long fasting; drinking cold water when hot, or in too large quantity; or when the obstructed perspirable matter is thrown immediately upon the bowels by a powerful revulsion, effected in a change from heat to extreme cold, &c. There is no gradual progression in this complaint from slight symptoms; its appearance is mostly sudden, and attack violent; the subject becomes in a greater measure outrageous; he strikes his belly with his feet, looks wildly on either side towards his hind parts, lies down unexpectedly, and rises as suddenly. When the pain is excruciating, vibrations of the whole frame are perceptible; to these a palpable moisture or sweat succeed, but not of long duration; a rigor or shivering frequently follows the perspiration; he repeatedly lies down, rolls himself

self upon his litter ; and, seeming exhausted with pain, stretches himself out as in a dying state. The first step to *relief* must be regulated, in some measure, by the ease or difficulty of obtaining those articles that are rendered by circumstances most adequate to the purpose. If in or near a town where the medicines can be readily procured, let the following BALL be prepared and given so soon as possible :

TAKE aniseed powder one ounce ;

Mithridate half an ounce ;

Grain of Paradise and ginger, (both in powder) of each two drachms ;

Oils of juniper and aniseed each a drachm ;

Syrup sufficient to make the ball.

This ball to be repeated in two hours, if the urgency of the case should render it necessary ; on the contrary, if the symptoms are much alleviated by the first, repeat it in four or six hours, as circumstances may require. Where a drink is thought preferable, or the administration more convenient, and the ingredients can be easily obtained, prepare the following :

TAKE

**TAKE** coriander, sweet fennel, aniseeds, and Jamaica pepper, bruised, each an ounce and half; grains of Paradise half an ounce; ginger two drachms. Bruise separately in a mortar; then boil in three pints of thin gruel for ten minutes; strain, and add of compound aniseed water, or, in want of that, Geneva or brandy, half a pint: of this composition let half be given so soon as possible, and the remainder in two, four, or six hours, as the mitigation or severity of symptoms may dictate.

If the distance from a town, or difficulty of obtaining the above preparations, should render a substitute unavoidable, the following attempt to relieve should be instantly adopted :

**TAKE** of ginger, caraways, nutmegs, Jamaica pepper; or in fact of any two spices (the house affords in the emergency), each an ounce; bruise together in a mortar, and boil a few minutes in three quarters of a pint of gruel or ale, with two or three ounces of sugar; then strain and add a gill of Geneva or brandy, giving the drink moderately warm.

This, in country places, and remote farm-houses, may be found an useful and convenient substitute during the time unavoidably necessary

to

to procure more powerful and efficacious remedies.

After a repetition of either of the two former compositions, should the horse not be relieved either by evacuations of stool, urine, or expulsion of wind, let the body undergo a gentle motion, by leading about for a quarter of an hour (or longer), if it can be justified by circumstances.

Should this combination of endeavours to relieve fail in effect, the thoughts must be immediately diverted from a continuation of warm cordial stimulants to a relaxation of the intestines; to promote which the following *glyster* should be prepared and administered with the greatest expedition.

TAKE camomile, marshmallows, wormwood, elder flowers, or rosemary, of any two most convenient, each a large handful; Jamaica pepper, and fenna, of each one ounce; ginger (bruised with the pepper) half an ounce: boil in two quarts of water for a quarter of an hour, strain off, pressing the ingredient; then add of olive oil and Geneva, or brandy, each a quarter of a pint, and let the whole be thrown moderately warm into the passage by gradual and gentle pressure.

This

This is to be repeated in three or four hours, if by the evacuation of foul indurated excrements and expulsion of wind a proportion of relief is obtained, but the subject not perfectly at ease ; on the contrary, should no relief be obtained, and the horse continue in extreme pain, recourse must be instantly had to the following *laxative drink*, which, if circumstances require, must be occasionally repeated till relief is obtained, by great expulsions of wind or plentiful evacuations.

TAKE senna two ounces ; boil a few minutes in three quarters of a pint of water, with three drachms of ginger bruised ; then strain and dissolve in the liquid four ounces of lenitive electuary, and six drachms of soluble tartar ; adding three ounces of tincture of senna, and one of the tincture of jalap.

So soon after this as the horse is inclined, supply him frequently with small quantities of substantial gruel moderately warm ; and when he is so much relieved that the pains have evidently subsided, in consequence of either of the above modes of treatment, let him be supplied with comfortable mashes, and warm water (slightly impregnated with gruel) at proper intervals,



intervals, for a few days ; confirming the cure and strengthening the stomach and bowels, by giving, for a few mornings, one of the *restorative cordial balls*, prescribed in p. 209. The judicious inquirer will observe, the former fiery practice (of pepper, gin, turpentine, brine, and a long list of *et cæteras*), is rejected, as founded upon the basis of uncertainty and danger ; consequently not entitled to a place in the Modern System of Farriery. The WONDERFUL variety of prescriptions commonly obtruded for the particular purposes of appearance, are here intentionally avoided to prevent deception: the above method of treatment, with the progressional alternatives, being absolutely adequate to every possibility of relief, where the collection and retention of wind are supposed to constitute the disorder passing under the *general* denomination of FRET, or CHOLIC.

## THE DISTINCT KIND OF CHOLIC

I now proceed to explain, is distinguished, in common practice, by the appellation of *Gripes*; but, for the better comprehension of all parties, I shall consider it an Inflammatory Cholic, without

without reverting to the language of others, terming that “bilious,” to which; in my humble opinion, there can in this instance be no *bilious* explanation appertaining. In the predominant symptoms of these kinds of Cholic there is but little difference; in the inflammatory, of which we now treat, they however run higher, or, in other terms, more violent; the pain is evidently excruciating, and proceeds from costiveness, with great accumulation of indurated fæces, or hardened excrements. The rectum seems loaded, and visibly pressed to the fundament, which appears prominent; a constant straining and endeavour to expel dung, with no other discharge than a discoloured hot, sharp, liquid; a frequent position is formed for staling without success; and the extreme pain soon produces symptomatic fever, with short breathing, heaving in the flanks, extravagant actions, and general exertions, that very much alarm with the apprehension of immediate danger. To allay which; it will be adviseable to take off the spasm or stricture from the intestines, by an expeditious solution and discharge of their contents, thereby preventing inflammation and its certain, if not immediate, consequences. This desirable event must be

solicited by a combination of efforts, without inconsiderately waiting hour after hour for the result of a single administration; a junction of aid must therefore be formed for the occasion, and the following *glyster* prepared and injected without delay :

TAKE of common gruel three pints ;

Epsom salts four ounces ;

Tincture of fenna and olive oil each a quarter of a pint.

This being administered, let a *laxative drink* be prepared with the following ingredients, and given so soon as circumstances will permit :

TAKE fenna one ounce ;

Caraway seeds bruised, and cream of tartar, each half an ounce.—Boil for ten minutes in three quarters of a pint of water, in which dissolve four ounces of Glauber salts, then strain and add tincture of jalap one ounce.

If relief and plentiful evacuations are not obtained by these means so soon as may reasonably be expected, prevent (if possible) the increase of inflammatory symptoms, by taking  
Z away

away a moderate proportion of blood from the neck; for, in the advanced stage of the disorder, appearances of danger can only be subdued by a removal of obstructions. It may therefore be naturally inferred (without introducing, in compliance with custom, a multiplicity of prescriptions to embarrass the mind and perplex the judgment) that these effects can only be produced by perseverance in a repetition of either or both the above, as exigencies may direct or dictate, till the necessary discharges are obtained; without which, inflammation and mortification will inevitably ensue. Glysters must consequently follow each other, without much intermission, till the point is carried; to promote which, let small quantities of warm thin gruel be frequently offered, with one ounce of nitre in each: warm mashes may also be given, if the horse should be inclined or enabled to receive them.

Immediate ease generally succeeds the necessary evacuations, the subject then only labouring under the lassitude that is so constantly the concomitant of extreme pain. All obstructions therefore being removed, and plentiful  
discharges

Discharges obtained, contribute the support that nature will so evidently stand in need of, by preparing a comfortable warm mash of oats and bran equal parts; into which stir of aniseed, liquorice, and elecampane powders, each one ounce. In two or three hours after this mash is consumed give the following cordial *stomachic ball*, or drink; as may be most applicable to the intent or opinion of the operator or superintendent; washing down either with two or three quarts of very thin gruel, if the horse be inclined to take it:

TAKE mithridate and aniseed (in powder) of each half an ounce;

Saffron and London philonium each two drachms;  
Oil of aniseed one drachm; Syrup (if necessary) to make the ball.

#### THE CORDIAL CARMINATIVE DRINK.

TAKE anise, coriander, and sweet fennel seeds, of each one ounce; caraway seed and ginger each half an ounce. Let them all be reduced to a gross powder, and boiled in a pint and half of gruel till reduced to a pint; then strain, pressing the ingredients, and let it be given of a proper warmth.

This will prove, upon most occasions, all the medical assistance the subject will require; but after recovery his state and condition should be attended to; no strong exercise or cold water can be proper for the first two or three days; his feeds should likewise be regulated by appetite or inclination; rather feeding often, and in small quantities, than to hazard a relaxation of the tone of the stomach, and a debilitation of the digestive powers, by large feeds at distant periods. If there are any indications of weakness, languor, inactivity, loss of appetite, heaviness and aversion to motion, or slight symptoms of pain, proceed to a course of the *cordial balls*, p. 209, giving one every morning, or every night and morning, should any of the above recited circumstances render it necessary. Previous to the final dismission of this article, it cannot be inapplicable to enforce an exertion of the attention absolutely requisite in the management of horses, where cases of imminent danger (as in the present instance) may almost instantly arise from what at first may appear trifling and superficial.

Invariable

Invariable resolutions should therefore be formed and adhered to, strictly avoiding whatever may constitute the foundation of either trouble or danger. A horse should never be suffered to stand long in a wet and dirty condition after chase or journey; to drink cold water when hot, or spring water from well or pump, when pond or river can be obtained: his feeds should be likewise regularly dispensed, with proper respect to equation in time and proportion in quantity. The quality as well as quantity of both hay and corn must ever be held in constant remembrance; these being jointly and individually necessary to a permanent establishment of health, strength, and condition. To possess all which in a high degree, and to proceed for strong and powerful exertions in the field or on the road, his regular consumption should be two bushels of oats and two trusses of hay per week,

The state of the body respecting evacuations should not be neglected; regularity in these will be equally necessary with punctuality in food: the state of a horse's body may be most accurately ascertained by the appearance of his dung; if it is ejected of a fine bright

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colour (inclining to that of a new guinea,) moderate in consistence, regular and adhesive in form, coming away without great efforts and an extension of the fundament, approaching to pain, the body may then be considered in a proper and healthy state; but when the dung comes away with seeming labour, is remarkably hard in substance, very dark in colour upon falling, and strong or foetid in smell, it may be fairly concluded, the contents of the intestines are indurated, and nearly approaching a state of disease. When they are observed to be in this condition, a gentle promotion of evacuations or course of purgatives may be premised, as very salutary preventives to danger, expence, and trouble.

#### S C O U R I N G, OR L O O S E N E S S.

AN aphorism of the justly celebrated *Boerhaave*, that “Nature never purges herself but “when she wants purging,” is so firmly fixed upon the basis of truth, that it has been very seldom subject to exception. But there are, in  
fact,



fact, rules so few, (either physical or moral) that will not admit of some, it can create no surprise that the maxims of so great a man should be entitled to their trifling proportion. To elucidate a text from the authority so truly respectable, and bring the matter into a fair discussion for every comprehension, it will be unavoidably necessary to enlarge a little upon the subject we wish clearly to explain.

The fact is, when a quantity of gross food and collected impurities are accumulated and pent up within the confined limits of the intestinal canal, whether obstructed in the first or last passages, the inconvenience (though different in symptoms) may be ultimately the same in effect. For the aliment, by the obstruction in its natural progress through the stomach or intestines, and preternatural retention there, acquires a degree of acrimonious malignity, that, at a certain period, (depending upon the habit and constitution), stimulates and begins to act upon the internal coat of the intestines, till, by the stimulus of one, and the irritability of the other, a solution of the excrements ensues; and Nature is enabled to relieve herself, by throwing off that load which

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the attention of the master, and the interposition of art, would sometimes do well to remove. And this is the more necessary to be retained in memory, when it is recollected that where Nature fails in, or is inadequate to, the production and completion of this effort, in her own defence, she becomes gradually overpowered; the intestines are enormously loaded, and the over-repletion at length inevitably constitutes the Gripes or Inflammatory Cholic, on which we last treated. But where Nature is fortunately adequate to her own work, and the accumulation is spontaneously carried off, *Boerhaave's* maxim is strictly verified; and it becomes palpably clear to every observer, Nature does not purge herself till she wants purging.

This kind of Lax or Looseness, is most readily distinguished from such as arise from other causes; the horse is previously dull, heavy, and inactive, seemingly oppressed, and visibly overloaded, though without any appearance of extreme pain, but subject to a general disquietude; the dung first comes away with a degree of solidity; the evacuations then become more frequent, and at last loose; the discharges

are at length rapid in succession, large in quantity, dark in colour, foetid in smell; bearing the appearance of impregnation with grease, as if with some foul oily substance in the intestines, similar to the last discharge after the injection of a glyster. Nature, in the present instance, generally performs her own work with so much ease, that the least appearance of pain is hardly perceptible. In preference to the custom of waiting day after day for its termination, thereby giving it an opportunity, by its acrimonious quality, (which may irritate and affect more or less, according to circumstances and the state of the subject acted upon) to debilitate the frame, it will be most prudent to give the following *laxative drink*, and assist Nature in carrying off what it would be highly improper to retain :

TAKE fenna and cream of tartar each two ounces ;

Epſom ſalts three ounces ;

Ginger bruised half an ounce.—Boil in a pint of thin gruel for ten minutes ; then strain and let it be given a little warm, and the gentle operation encouraged by frequent small quantities of gruel water,

On the contrary, should this plan be rejected as unnecessary, and the looseness or scouring continue

continue for any length of time, so as not only to expel the accumulated contents, but, by its sharp and acid quality, to stimulate the intestines and cause an expulsion of the mucus, (with which they are internally guarded) with ineffectual strainings and painful sensations, warm cordial restringents will be highly necessary, and may be administered in the following forms:

#### A CORDIAL RESTRINGENT BALL.

TAKE diascordium six drachms, gum arabic, prepared chalk, and armenian bole, each half an ounce; ginger (in powder) one drachm; oil of aniseed forty drops; syrup, a small quantity, to complete the ball.

This may be repeated in six, eight, or twelve hours, as the severity of the cause may require; the *restringent mass* (p. 46.) may be occasionally brought into use. If solid food is refused, a gruel should be given for drink, made so thick as to be but barely liquid. If the expected relief be not soon obtained, and the subject is affected with spasms or twitchings in the intestines, add to the above ball two  
drachms

drachms of liquid laudanum, or ten grains of opium. If the horse is inclined to drink frequently, (as in all probability he will be) give one ounce of gum arabic dissolved in a small quantity of water, and added to his gruel once in every five or six hours.

Where a ball is found inconvenient, or a drink preferred, let the following be prepared;

TAKE calcined (commonly called burnt) hartshorn three ounces;

Gum arabic one ounce;

Cinnamon half an ounce;

Ginger two drachms.—Boil in a quart of water till it will produce a pint clear of the ingredients; then strain and add tincture of Japan earth one ounce and a half; liquid laudanum two drachms.

The above ball and drink are powerfully restraining; and, with the cordial aromatic assistance, are admirably calculated to restore the tone of the intestines, and reduce their irritability. No larger field for relief need be explored; increase or diminish any of the different ingredients, as circumstances may require or judgment direct; and bring the doses  
of

of either nearer to each other, if appearances of danger justify the necessity.

Should the predominant symptoms refuse submission to a repetition of the medicines here prescribed, prepare the following *anodyne glyster*, and repeat it once in eight or twelve hours, till success attends the joint administration:

#### THE ANODYNE GLYSTER.

TAKE linseed two ounces; gum arabic one ounce.

Boil in two quarts of gruel for some time; then strain and add of diascordium one ounce and a half; liquid laudanum half an ounce, and cold drawn linseed oil four ounces. Let it be thrown into the body with a proper bag and pipe, using gentle pressure.

So soon as the intestinal acrimony is obtunded by these means, and the excrements resume their original form, let the return of natural strength be solicited by every care and attention; give occasionally warm comfortable mashes, as most applicable to the state of appetite, and let no water entirely cold be drank for some days; introduce your dry feeds by degrees,

degrees, and let half a dozen of the *cordial balls*, (p. 209.) be brought into use; giving one every morning or evening to prevent flatulence, and act as a warm restorative stimulant to the stomach and intestines.

Having so much enlarged upon this distinct kind of Lax or Scouring, proceeding from repletion, it becomes necessary to animadvert upon the same disorder, when originating in a different cause. A severe laxation, or looseness, then is known frequently to arise from a depraved state of the stomach, and a debility or weakness of the powers necessary to the purposes of digestion. The loss of appetite is occasioned by a relaxation of the elasticity or natural tone of the stomach; the blood is impoverished by a deficiency in its nutritious support of chyle through the lacteals; and the bile becomes equally defective, in being deprived of its due proportion of stimulus, consequently inadequate to the task it is destined to perform.

The chain of operation being thus obstructed, the whole system is in a great measure deranged, and the half-digested aliment soon engenders fermentation by its acidity; and, in

an effort of Nature, prepares itself for approaching expulsion. The intestines, from the crude indigested aliment, and inert state of the bile, soon become relaxed, and the contents run off almost spontaneously, the horse seeming little prepared for or concerned in the event. The discharges continuing, become in a few days almost incessant, and constitute frequent irritations, and severe strainings to dung, with no other effect than an ichorous scalding liquid, or trifling evacuations or slimy mucus, from the internal coat (or lining of the intestines.)

In this particular case there requires a general relief to the universal debility of the intestinal track; the first step to which must be to sheath the acrimony, and reduce the irritability in both the first and last passages; then gradually restore the powers of digestion, and invigorate the whole system by a course of stoma-  
chic restoratives.

#### THE ANODYNE RESTRINGENT BALL.

TAKE of India rhubarb, and compound powder of gum dragon, each half an ounce; columbo root (in powder) two drachms; ginger (in powder)



powder) one drachm; opium fifteen grains; conserve of orange-peel six drachms; syrup of dialcordium sufficient to form a ball.

This is to be repeated in twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four hours, as exigencies may require. For a substitute the following drink will prove equally applicable and efficacious.

#### THE ANODYNE DRINK.

TAKE linseed, burnt hartshorn, and gum arabic, of each one ounce; boil in a pint and half of water to a pint; then strain and add tincture of cinnamon two ounces; liquid laudanum two drachms.

Let this be given every morning for three in succession; the *restringent mash* (p. 46.) may be occasionally offered, or, in refusal of that and dry corn, give a warm mash at proper periods, compounded of bran and ground oatmeal equal parts: if the stimulus and irritation continue, without any perceptible remission or submission of symptoms, let the following *glyster* be given once in every twenty-four hours.

THE

## THE ANODYNE STARCH GLYSTER.

TAKE boiled starch, of moderate consistence, three pints; gum arabic (in powder) two ounces; liquid laudanum half an ounce; cold drawn linseed oil four ounces.

So soon as the purging (or rather irritation and straining) is subdued, the appetite will consequently increase, and become in some measure restored: attend to that circumstance, and promote it by every possible means, assisting for three or six mornings with one of the following *restorative stomachic balls*.

## THE RESTORATIVE BALL.

TAKE Venice treacle half an ounce; Peruvian bark six drachms, columbo root and camomile flowers (in powder) of each two drachms; oil of carraways five-and-twenty drops; honey sufficient to make the ball.

If the horse should be very much reduced in flesh, continue weak in body and appetite, forming the appearance of general debilitation, let the frame be universally assisted, and the cure completed by a dozen of the balls prescribed (p. 209;) giving one every morning, either in the statethere directed, or dissolved in a sufficient portion of gruel.

MOLTEN

## MOLTEN GREASE

Is a disorder produced in general by too great, sudden, or powerful exertions, when a horse is not in *proper condition*: as strong and severe hunting, long and speedy journies, or hard driving in carriages, when first taken from grass loaded with impurities: just out of dealer's possession, full of light flatulent food; when too full of flesh for violent exercise. In such cases, from the internal heat, increased circulation, and temporary inflammation, the matter seated upon the membranes in various parts of the body undergoes rarefaction and rapid solution, making distinct efforts for discharge by the different excretories. The portion nearest the vessels becomes absorbed in the blood (retarding circulation,) thereby producing some degree of fever; another part takes its appearance with the excrements; a third portion fixes upon the lungs, and obstructs respiration; to these a laxation of the intestinal contents succeeds, and, lastly, a looseness, or scouring, of which we last treated;

so that in the present instances we plainly perceive the possibility of almost a complication of disorders, originating in a single cause, and the foundation of THAT CAUSE *indiscretion*.

A little reflection upon the incontrovertible truth of this observation will surely point out to every *humane* master and faithful servant the great danger of *over-riding, driving, or fatiguing*, any horse whatever beyond the line of prudence and consistency, when not in high condition for the service he may be engaged in, whether turf, field, or road. Let it be constantly held in remembrance, more horses are ruined and destroyed by cruelty and neglect than by chance or accident. The subject we now treat on proves (more than any other) the absolute necessity of insuring CONDITION previous to a course of constant business; this must be obtained by a proper removal of those *impurities* or *viscidities* that lay the foundation of what the lineal descendants from *Vulcan* have, time out of mind, denominated *humours*.

That process, when first taken up from grafts, or too full of flesh, is particularly explained

ained under the heads of *feeding*, *bleeding*, *purging*, in the early part of this work; giving instructions that cannot be too much exacted or persevered in, by those who wish to reduce their horses at all times, in such (for services of difficulty or danger) as has been the source of equestrian emulation in the sporting world, from the lucky possessor of numerous stud to the more humble attendant whom fortune persuades to be *com- vely* content with one.

The symptoms are in different subjects more or less violent, according to the state of condition at the time of attack; varying, either in a greater or lesser degree, in proportion to the parts most affected by the melen revulsion and original cause. Where the solution has proved most partial, the it will become most predominant; as for instance, upon the bowels, lungs, or circulation of the blood by absorption; in the first, it pain attends the laxation or looseness; in second, great difficulty of breathing from expansion of the lungs, may produce symptoms of inflammation there, as explained in 214. And when the mass of blood is

## 356 MOLTEN GREASE.

generally affected, and preternaturally loaded; fever must consequently ensue. These symptoms, as before observed, all vary in different subjects; but one is *pathognomonic* or *invariable* in all, which is the general incorporation of a greasy substance with the excrements, nearly similar to the separated particles of congealed oil in frosty weather; previous to the entire solution of the intestinal contents, and so long as the dung retains its usual form, the greasy hue appears only upon the surface, but as it advances in disease it becomes more intimately united.

So soon as ever the indications are perceived, proper methods should be instantly taken to relieve Nature from the threatened oppression, by such evacuations as predominant symptoms direct; at any rate let plentiful bleeding be the first step to reduce present, or prevent approaching, inflammation. If fever has not come on too rapidly, give, so soon as circumstances will permit, the mild *laxative drink* prescribed under the head of *flatulent colic*, p. 334; but, should the horse be strong and powerful, (the disease being in its infancy) give without delay the *purging drink*, p. 42, repeating

repeating it in three or four days, if present appearances justify the propriety of the practice.

If the subject is greatly depressed with palpable fever, disquietude, loss of appetite, and internal painful sensations, glysters must be substituted; but as these need not be composed of variety, make use of the *glyster*, p. 239, which may be most easily prepared. To attenuate the blood, relieve the lungs and take off the heterogeneous load from the circulation, as well as to mitigate all symptoms of fever (if such there are), adopt the mode of treatment particularly described, p. 245, taking in the assistance of the *pectoral decoction*, p. 216, if the lungs are very much oppressed, and symptoms of approaching inflammation are at all apprehended. The appetite must be attended to and solicited in every stage of the disease, by comfortable mashes, and the trifling minutiae so often repeated in the preceding part of the work.

So soon as alarming or predominant symptoms subside, proceed to a course of the mild *purging balls*, p. 219, going regularly through three doses, at such periods as are best adapted

## 358 MOLTEN GREASE.

to the strength of the horse. In a few days, after working off the last dose, begin upon the following warm *diuretics*, (well guarded with aromatics) giving one every morning till the whole are taken.

### THE CORDIAL DIURETIC BALLS.

TAKE Castile or pure white soap ten ounces ;  
Nitre and rosin each six ounces ;  
Aniseed (in powder,) four ounces ;  
Camphor and ginger (in powder,) each one ounce ;  
Oil of juniper six drachms. Honey sufficient to  
form the mass ; which divide into balls of two  
ounces each.

The above medicines and treatment are singularly adapted to every purpose in the cure of this disease ; the *purging balls* before mentioned will prove much more adequate to this case than any that can be selected. The work begun by the *alterative purges* will be completed by the gradual effects of the *diuretics* ; and, with proper attention to the rules laid down in the first pages of this work, the horse may be soon produced in good state and condition.

CLASS



## C L A S S X,

STRANGURY, AND OTHER DISORDERS OF  
THE PARTS NECESSARY TO THE SECRETION  
AND EVACUATION OF URINE,

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## S T R A N G U R Y.

THE parts that by some defect or injury constitute the cause of these complaints, are so nicely constructed, and so remotely situated, from every possible means of inspection, that a great degree of judgment and delicate discrimination must be exerted before a distinction can be made, or a just and decisive opinion obtained. The strangury is an obstruction or temporary suppression of urine, and may arise from different causes; for, as before observed, the va-

riety of parts appropriated to the secretion and excretion are so numerous as to render the exact cause of disease a matter of ambiguity and uncertainty, with even those who *ought* to be the best enabled to form a decisive opinion (or rather a *certain* conjecture) from their course of extensive practice. The STRANGURY is sometimes a concomitant to the inflammatory cholic, and is then the effect of pressure from the indurated fæces or hardened dung retained in the rectum, or straight gut. When it arises not from this cause, it may proceed from inflammation in the kidneys, ulcerations there, spasms upon any particular part, or inflammation of the neck, or the bladder itself. When it is the consequence of Cholic, and proceeds only from that original cause, it may be considered merely symptomatic, and will be entirely subdued with the first complaint, to which the saline medicines and stimulus of glysters there prescribed will very much contribute.

The signs of this suppression are too palpable to be mistaken; the subject is (after a long retention of urine) in an almost perpetual position to stale without effect, indicating by  
action

action and attitude the expectation of an unusual discharge ; when, after frequent straining, the effort terminates in a groan of seeming disappointment. The horse in general is not in a great degree of acute pain, appears full in the flank, somewhat dejected, and, to a minute observer, seems not only conscious of his inability, but to supplicate assistance and relief. The ancient practice of inflaming the parts by an immediate use of violent stimulants, as cantharides, turpentine, and large quantities of camphire, is with the strictest justice exploded ; having been experimentally found, upon most occasions, to increase, by their powerful stimulus and irritation, what they were intended to remove ; by such ill-advised and mistaken application of medicine, frequent inflammation has been produced and much mischief ensued.

The most rational and certain means of obtaining speedy relief will be to lessen the stricture upon the parts, by a moderate loss of blood ; then reduce inflammation by emollient internals, promoting the secretion and evacuation of urine by very gentle stimulants and mild diuretics. This systematic method  
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of obtaining a cure will not be so satisfactory to many of the rustic *learned* practitioners, who, closely adhering to old customs, old rules, and old books, would rather attempt to force the very blood unsecreted through the urinary passages, by a course of *Spanish flies*, or *oil of turpentine*, than adopt any method, however improved, in the formation of which their *extensive* abilities have not been consulted.

By this abominable and infamous practice the lives of many valuable horses have been taken away, the proprietor attributing to disease what nine times out of ten is the effect of ignorance. From an observation so just, or, in fact, a reflection so alarming, arises the palpable necessity of this work, and the probable utility of its publication, to the very great number of gentlemen and sportsmen, who, residing in remote spots, or distant parts of the kingdom, cannot have constant recourse of farriers of judgment, extensive practice, and nice discrimination. To prevent therefore the frequent dreadful effects of confidence and ignorance on one hand, or an injudicious use of powerful and dangerous medicines on the other, every man will do well to interpose his  
his

his authority, and be well and clearly informed of the cause and intended method of cure, previous to the administration of a single medicine for any complaint whatever.

On the contrary, in the more populous and enlightened parts of the kingdom, farriers are known, whose abilities and practice rank them high in estimation; but as these are certainly not the growth of every soil, or produce of every parish, most owners of horses constantly in their possession will not find either their time or attention entirely wasted, by endeavouring *occasionally* to form a tolerable acquaintance with the subject matter of the work before us. In a convenient or proper time, after bleeding, throw up the following *emollient glyster* :

TAKE of thin gruel three pints ;

Nitre two ounces ;

Gum arabic one ounce and an half ;

Olive oil four ounces ;

Let it be injected moderately warm, and retained in the body as long as possible.

So soon after this glyster as the horse is inclined by appetite to receive it, give a mash of two parts malt and one bran, they having been scalded together and stirred till of a moderate warmth; after this, if the subject has not staled in consequence of bleeding, glyster, and mash, have the following balls expeditiously prepared to forward the evacuation :

**TAKE** Castile soap ten drachms ;

Sal prunella one ounce ;

Camphire two drachms ;

Aniseed powder six drachms ;

Oil of juniper one drachm and a half ;

Syrup of marshmallows sufficient to make the mass, which divide into two equal parts, giving one in six hours after the other, if the former is not successful.

These are very safe, mild, and efficacious, in general producing the desired effect without any uneasy sensations. Where a drink is preferred, as coming into a more applicable mode of administration, the following will prove equally serviceable :

**TAKE**

**TAKE** juniper berries (bruised) two ounces; boil in a pint and a half of water for some time; then strain, (to produce by squeezing the berries three quarters of a pint;) to this add of nitre and gum arabic (in powder) each an ounce.

This drink, or the above ball, to be repeated at distinct periods of four hours each (if a repetition of the first at the end of six hours does not effect the desired purpose) till relief is obtained by plentiful evacuations.

Thus much by way of instruction where *strangury* is occasioned by spasm, or inflammation of the bladder or neck; but as it may also proceed from an inflammation or ulceration of the kidneys, and a paralytic affection or palsy of the same parts: in either of which symptoms are frequently doubtful, and seldom certain; circumstances may consequently vary in different subjects, so as to render the true seat of disease a matter of conjecture only.

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The only symptoms to which some certainty may be attributed are the following: if proceeding from spasm on either part, there may be frequent periodical relaxations that will permit the urine to flow in small quantities for a very short time, when it may as suddenly stop; in this case the urine will be of its usual colour, or at times rather deeper, as if not perfectly complete in its secretion from the blood. In such case the treatment is exactly as already pointed out; but with the additional directions to repeat the glyster and bleeding occasionally, till the point is carried. The gentle *diuretic* medicines must be likewise continued at less distant periods; that is, their distinct doses must be brought an hour nearer to each other, till the purpose is effected; this method being found greatly preferable to the “kill or cure” practice, frequently producing inflammation, convulsions, and all their dreadful consequences.

But where the cause originates in a palsy of, or ulceration upon, any parts necessary to the offices of evacuation, no great expectation of cure can be indulged; but more particularly



in the former with which approaches certain death. When the kidneys become totally inadequate to their general purpose, a suppression and general stagnation consequently ensue, the loss of the animal becoming inevitable; and although relief is sometimes most expeditiously obtained, in an inflammation of the parts, by a gentle method above directed, yet in an ulceration much is not left to hope. In this case there is visible pain and disquietude, the evacuation is not totally suppressed, being only at times temporarily obstructed; it frequently alters its appearance, being sometimes thick, depositing a turbid sediment, as if impregnated with membranous matter; at other times tinged with blood, the evident effect of a corroded solution of the diseased part. In this instance the following balls or drink only can be relied on, for any expectation of permanent relief or probable mitigation:

**TAKE**

**TAKE** of myrrh one ounce, Castile soap and Locatelli's balsam, each three ounces; nitre and aniseed (in powder) each two ounces; balsam of Peru six drachms—Mix together with soap of marshmallows, and divide into six balls, giving one every morning.

The diet should be both nutritive and balsamic, consisting of warm mashes impregnated with honey or malt; both or either of which will greatly contribute to the general purpose. If symptoms are mitigated, and relief obtained, by these means, surely farther instructions must be unnecessary to recommend a perseverance till the cure is completed; to which rest, gentle exercise, and stable care, will prove very useful aids. When an obstruction, or partial suppression of urine, arises from spasm, convulsion, or stricture, upon any of the parts necessary to be concerned in secretion or evacuation, they can only be allayed or removed by time and opiates, to relax the seat of disease, and reduce the irritability. The following *ball* will be applicable to that intention, repeating it at such times as the circumstances  
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of the case may render necessary and unavoidable :

TAKE of Castile soap half an ounce ; nitre, rosin, and compound powder of gum tragacanth, each two drachms : opium (in powder) ten grains ; oil of juniper thirty drops.—Mix.

The following *drink* may be substituted, if a liquid is required, as it will prove equally efficacious :

TAKE thin gruel three quarters of a pint ; gum arabic, and nitre (in powder) each one ounce ; liquid laudanum three drachms.—Mix.

This (as the ball above) may be occasionally repeated.

Horses are likewise liable to, and often sustain, injuries upon the parts we now treat of, by being overloaded with solid heavy substances upon the loins, strains in drawing great weights, and many other incidental circumstances, to which they are constantly subject in their different employments. The defects arising from such causes originate in a relaxation or rupture of some one or more of

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that infinity of membranous fibres, that in such case constitute the seat of disease. These injuries display themselves by an evident wincing and local debility, perceptible upon the least motion to the most common observer; they are also attended with great variations in the evacuation of urine, either by temporary suppression or partial obstruction, according to the original seat of pain and its effect upon the neighbouring parts. In these disorders the urine is seldom copious, its discharge frequent, but in small quantities; generally of a very high colour, and in many cases tinged with blood.

Arising from whichever of the before-mentioned causes, a revulsion may be made by drawing blood from the neck; not more to prevent stagnation and consequent inflammation, (if from a bruise) than to constrict the mouths of the finer vessels, if lacerated or ruptured.

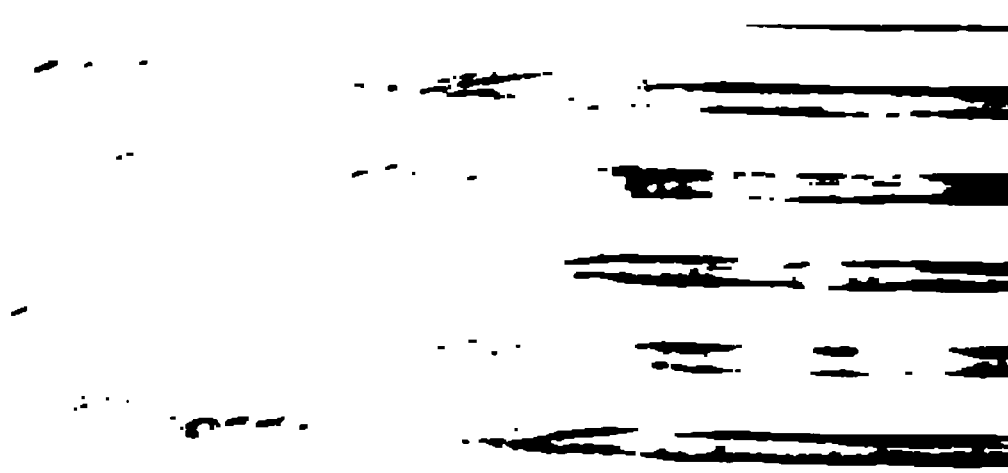
The following balsamic *restoratives*, blended with gentle *diuretics*, may be then proceeded upon, with the assistance of stimulative corroborants;

porants; as an external application, if the muscular parts are suspected to have suffered some degree of relaxation, by any of the means before described, an embrocation follows:

TAKE Locatelli's balsam ten drachms; myrrh (in powder) three drachms; balsam of Tolu a drachm and a half; oil of juniper a drachm; liquorice powder to make a ball.

This to be given every other morning for a fortnight or three weeks, assisted with an ounce of gum arabic, dissolved and given in the water a little warm, and well impregnated with gruel, twice every day. If the case is so severe as to require (by its visible debility) external aid, let a portion of the following *embrocation* be gently and patiently bathed upon the part affected, twice or thrice every day.

TAKE opodeldoc and camphorated spirits, of each three ounces; oil of origanum two drachms; extract of Saturn one ounce; mix the extract with the spirits, then add the opodeldoc; and, lastly, the origanum, shaking well together every time of using.



## C L A S S   X I.

## DISORDERS OF THE EYES.

THERE is no one part of this tract more entitled to serious investigation than the subject now before us ; for as no blemish or defect can take so much from the original value of a horse as the loss of his eyes, so it unluckily happens there are few cases less understood or more improperly treated. The rays of information can be but trifling to the general reader, from a dull anatomical description of the *globe*, *tunica cornea* ; the *aqueous*, *crystalline*, and *vitreous humours* ; the distinct anterior or posterior *chambers* ; the action of the *muscles* or the *optic nerve*. The elaborate study of so complicate and delicate a structure (in the formation of which such an infinity of

parts and technical terms are included) can afford but very slender intelligence to the literary enquirer; as such a wonderful variety of minute distinctions cannot be comprehended by description, a just and accurate discrimination of parts being only to be acquired by attentive and repeated dissections.

We shall, therefore, for the advantage of general comprehension, consider the eye in its external appearance only, with the diseases and injuries to which it is liable, reverting occasionally to the great delicacy of its structure, and the exquisite sensibility of the parts that constitute the whole. This superficial description, taken into consideration, becomes divested of technical jargon, and distinctly comprehended by every individual in possession of the blessing of sight; upon which basis may be formed a very fair idea, blending an occasional reference to their own sensations; with such explanations as will be introduced to make the different degrees of disease sufficiently understood.

Previous to every additional observation, it becomes indispensably necessary to introduce  
some



some few remarks upon the cruelty and inconsistency of ancient practice ; submitting such conclusions and inferences as will naturally arise to those readers who recur to this work for information, amusement, or to sink a tedious hour in the serious task of criticism. It has been before mentioned how exquisitely sensible this organ is of irritation ; and it must be admitted, no argument whatever can undergo a more candid discussion than in an application to our own feelings, inconveniences, and disquietudes. To the sensations therefore of every individual I submit the reflection, and venture to believe there are none who may honour me with a perusal of these pages but will, by a momentary retrospection, communicate to memory the recollection of some acute pain, or excruciating anguish, he must, in all probability, have experienced from either the obtrusion of an almost impalpable particle of dust, or the attack of an invisible insect.

Revolving such circumstances for a few moments in remembrance, I claim his attention to the following corroboration of that infamous practice I have, in the course of this

work, so repeatedly, and (I flatter myself) justly, condemned. For instance, GIBSON directs an infusion of unslacked lime powerfully impregnated with sal armoniac ; and tells you at the same time “ it is an excellent wash for “ all old obstinate ulcers.” Let any patient reader draw an imaginary parallel between the almost inexpressible irritability of this delicate structure and the callous surface of an “obstinate “ ulcer ;” he will then, no doubt, form a proper judgment to decide upon the consistency of the practice. With a wonderful variety of alternatives, prescribed in all possible forms, we are directed by BARTLET “ to take off the “ film, by blowing into the eye equal parts of “ white vitriol and sugarcandy finely powdered.” And BRACKEN most *judiciously* recommends “ glass finely powdered, mixed “ up with honey and a little fresh butter.”

A number of similar instances might be introduced, from different authors, to justify the observations already made upon a practice so strange in its original adoption, and so infamous in its effect : I shall however draw the attention only to a few remarks, first upon the prescription of GIBSON, whose composition  
must

must possess incredible virtue to prove equally applicable to an organ of such exquisite sensibility, and the foul surface of an inveterate ulcer. BARTLET's wonderful nostrum of *white vitriol* and *sugarcandy* is also most singularly entitled to *admiration*; for the corrosive quality of its ingredients, and the mode of application taken into the consideration, will render it unnecessary for me to obtrude a single thought of my own upon the occasion. But the *infallible specific* of BRACKEN cannot be suffered to pass without *proper respect*, as it must afford matter of speculation to the curious, to inquire by what means an established composition, for even the destruction of rats, shall be so *magically* divested of its pernicious effects, as to be admitted a salutary application to that part of the frame endowed with the greatest portion of sensibility.

These remarks submitted to public consideration, we proceed to expatiate upon the different diseases of the eyes, whether as natural blemishes, hereditary defects, or proceeding from external injuries. Such list might be very much extended by enlarging distinctly upon the remote and separate disorders; as the

*gutta serena, cataract, fibn, &c.* but as relief is rarely obtained in these cases, a very minute and extensive description of the component parts that constitute the cause, can add but little, if any, to the general information.

The *gutta serena* is a partial or universal loss of sight, where no palpable defect or fault appears in the eye, except that the pupil is a little more enlarged or contracted. The appearances of this blemish are various, as well as the causes and effects, some of its subjects being totally blind, and others barely enabled to distinguish between light and darkness. The signs are a blackness of the pupil of the eye, its size being larger or less than usual, according to the cause, and its not contracting or dilating upon a sudden exposure to any degree of light. In order to the cure, attend to the cause as the first step to an administration of medicine, from which, in truth, no great expectation can be formed either internally or externally; more particularly from the former, as the seat of disease is so very remote from the centre of medicinal action. If the defect should originate in a contraction of or  
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compression upon the optic nerve, very little can be done with an expectation of success; and much less if it arises from a palsy of that or any neighbouring part.

A *cataract*, like many other diseases, is attributed by different practitioners to different causes, though the greater part coincide in opinion that the defect is in the crystalline humour of the eye, which, becoming opaque, prevents the admission of those rays upon the *retina* that constitute vision. To enter at large into the professional definition of these distinct diseases, and most minutely into the probable or possible means of relief, would be to extend this subject beyond the limits or compass of the work itself. I shall therefore reconcile to myself the communication of a fact almost universally acknowledged—that little, even in the human species, is now expected from the famous operation of couching; an experiment that is, taking it “all in all,” productive of advantages so very trifling, the recommendation of it here can avail but little, particularly as the expences added to the hazard and uncertainty of cure could

could gain but few profelytes to the practice.

In all blemishes or defects where a thickening of some one of the coats, membranes, or humours of the eye, has formed an appearance of *cataract* or *film*, it has been an established and most contemptible custom to bestow a plentiful application of *corrosive* powders, unguents, and solutions, for the purposes of obliteration ; without a single reflection upon the absurdity of endeavouring to destroy by corrosion, what is absolutely separated from the surface by a variety of membranous coverings, according to the distinct seat of disease ; with which it is impossible to bring the intended remedy into contact, without first destroying the intervening or surrounding parts by which the inner delicate structure is so numerously guarded. It may not be inapplicable to strengthen this remark, by reverting to the great difficulty of solving a stone in the human body, to effect which so many unsuccessful attempts have been made ; the mere solution of the *calculus* out of the body is a matter universally known to the Faculty ; but the great and  
difficult

difficult object of cure is, to discover a *solvent* that will act upon the stone in the bladder of the patient without injury to the parts in its passage, or where it is contained.

This is a blessing too great, I fear, ever to be obtained by even the noblest exertions of human study and application. Seeing therefore the cause just treated on in nearly a similar point of view, with the almost palpable impossibility of removing such obstacles, without increasing the malady, I am consequently prevented from introducing a chain of prescriptions that can positively only amuse or deceive, as the methods hereafter pointed out for the relief of different causes or external injuries may be in the above cases adopted as palliatives, according to circumstances; but sorry I am to acknowledge, that in such instances NATURE will, in all probability, prove the least dangerous and expensive FARRIER.

The cases that most frequently occur, requiring medical aid or topical application, are generally the effects of *cold, blows, bites*, or other external injuries. In those proceeding

immediately from *cold*, you perceive a visible inflammation upon the globe of the eye, and internal surrounding parts, as the edges of the eye-lids, &c. The eye seems divested of its former transparency, bearing a thick cloudy appearance upon its outer covering, and is constantly discharging an *acid serum* or sharp water that in a short time almost excoriates the parts in its passage. The horse drops his ears, becomes dull and sluggish, frequently shaking his head, as if to shake off the ears, becomes low and depressed, displaying, in every action, pain and disquietude.

Here a revulsion of the perspirable matter has by some obstruction (either partial or universal) been thrown upon these parts, to the effects of which they become more liable from their extreme delicacy and consequent irritability. To remove which, bleeding (in proper proportion) must precede every other consideration; to this succeeds a speedy adoption of, and perseverance in, the methods directed, p. 198, with occasional references to p. 243, and the following pages for instructions, should symptomatic fever attend. To cool the  
parts



parts and allay the irritability occasioned by the scalding serum, prepare the following lotion :

**TAKE** sugar of lead one drachm ;

White vitriol two scruples ;

Spring water half a pint ;

Brandy or camphorated spirits one ounce or two table spoonfuls.

Let the eyes and surrounding parts be gently washed with a sponge, or tow, impregnated with the above solution, twice or thrice every day.

Should the inflammation not seem likely to subside, but continue fixed on the part threatening violence, have recourse to a dozen of *diuretic* balls, p. 106, using gentle work or moderate exercise.

The effects arising from blows or bites may be displayed by different appearances, according to the severity of the injury sustained. Should inflammation and swelling proceed from either cause, bleeding will be a preparatory step to an early reduction of both ; a repetition of which, at proper distances of time, may

may always be justified by a non-submission of symptoms. The following preparation from GOULARD'S Extract, for the purpose of external application, becomes immediately necessary, and is accurately proportioned for this particular occasion :

**TAKE** extract of Saturn (commonly called Goulard's)  
three drachms ;

**River, or pond water, one pint ;**

**Camphorated spirits one ounce ;**

**Mix the extract with the spirits, then add the water,  
and let the parts affected be plentifully embro-  
cated three or four times a day, according to the  
emergency.**

If a large swelling, laceration, or wound, attends, after washing with the above, apply a warm poultice of bread, milk, and a little of the lotion, softened with a small portion of lard or olive oil, bandaging on, and covering with a hood, to secure its position. In cases of less danger, and in remote situations, distant from towns, and the easy procuration of medicines, the following may be substituted, and plentifully used :

**TAKE**

TAKE best white wine vinegar half a pint;  
 Spring water a quarter of a pint;  
 Best brandy a wine glass or half a gill.—Mix.

A wound upon any of the external parts, occasioned by an instrument or severe bite, must be treated as directed under that head. The above compositions are properly adapted to every purpose for which they are prescribed; nor can more powerful or efficacious repellents or astringents be applied to those parts, unless by the rude hands and ruder heads of uncultivated adventurers and desperate practitioners.

The former elaborate and destructive compositions of corrosive powders, blended with greasy substances, in the form of unguents, as well as the poisonous lotions, are long since exploded, as totally inadequate to the purposes for which they were so *learnedly* displayed; even that infallible of all infallibles, the great secret of Sir HANS SLOANE, is at length buried in oblivion, and has given place to more modern improvements. In all cases where the globe and pupil of the eye retain their transparency, subject only to surrounding inflammation, that, not seeming inclined to submit,

occasional bleedings, a course of diuretics, as before prescribed, or three doses of mild *physic*, may be adopted; assisting the whole with a frequent use of either *lotion*, as most applicable to reigning symptoms.

The HAWS are a preternatural enlargement of the corners of the eyes, become horny, and, being overgrown, approach the pupil, giving the eye the external appearance of bad formation. The instrumental extirpation of these substances has been a favourite practice of long standing; and, like all others, has had its alternate proportion of failure and success. After separation has been effected by the hand, needle, and instrument of the operative FARRIER, any simple styptic or astringent is generally applied, and it is then just an even bet, or chance, whether you succeed in the intentional effect of your operation; for, having seen it repeatedly productive of inflammation, and, lastly, total blindness, I cannot conscientiously recommend the practice; on the contrary, to establish my own want of taste, confess I would encounter the lesser evil of the two, and rather (for my own riding) prefer a horse with *large haws* to one *without eyes*. This opinion  
may

may appear singular to the *professors* of *farriery*, to whom I have so particularly addressed a variety of passages in the early part of this work, and indeed to whose approbation it cannot lay claim, being in direct contradiction to the *pecuniary* preponderation of their professional judgment and execution.

**C L A S S   X I L**

**MALLENDERS, SALLENDERS, LAMPAS,  
CURBS, QUITTORS, AND RINGBONES.**

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**M A L L E N D E R S**

**ARE** cracks, or oozings, situate directly upon the back part of the knee joint, occasioned, in general, more by neglect than any casual or constitutional defect in the subject. The matter they discharge is, in some, thin and acrimonious, in others it forms a glutinous accumulation in its oozing, and bears the appearance of small scabs or scurfy eschars upon the surface, constituting a want of flexibility, or seeming lameness in the joint. The first step to cure is, to have the parts well washed with soap and warm water (forming a substantial lather), repeating the operation night and morning till the eschars relax from their rigidity,

rigidity, and separate of themselves. And this will be more readily promoted by rubbing in a proper proportion of the following ointment, in an hour after the washing, when, by time and wiping, they are tolerably dry.

TAKE camphorated spermaceti ointment two ounces; Cinnabar of antimony, and oil of tartar, per deliquium, each half an ounce;—Mix, and use plentifully twice a day.

So soon as the cracks are perfectly free from scabs or scurf, a cure may reasonably be expected, by washing with equal parts of vinegar and tincture of myrrh, moistening the surface occasionally with the *unguent* before-mentioned. But where, from long neglect, or an acrimony of the juices, they have acquired a degree of virulence, not submitting to the above treatment, let them be dressed twice a day with the strong *mercurial ointment*, previously washing them well with a compound of vinegar, water, and soap lees, equal parts. Should a perceptible foulness in the subject justify the measure, take away a proper quantity of blood, and give an ounce of *nitre* dissolved in water twice a day for a fortnight, or a short course of the *diuretic* balls,

balls, p. 106. Where humours are attendant upon other parts likewise, a gentle course of *mercurial physic*, succeeded by antimonial alteratives, may be preferred; selecting both from the variety of prescriptions under those heads, taking care to proportion your quantities to the strength of the subject.

## S A L L E N D E R S

ARE upon the inside of the hough, or hock, what the MALLENDERS are upon the backside of the knee; they originate in the same cause, and are cured by the same means, rendering unnecessary and superfluous any farther observations under this head.

## L A M P A S

Is an enlargement of the roof of the mouth, particularly in young horses; and sometimes becomes so prominent as to project below the teeth of the upper jaw, preventing the teeth of the lower from coming into contact for the purpose of mastication. The horse is by these means not only deprived of a great proportion



portion of the *nutriment* necessary to his support, but becomes *poor, weak, dejected*, and out of condition. Custom has established an useful and expeditious extirpation, by the actual *cautery* or RED HOT IRON; and, though I am no advocate for such *fiery* remedies, where they can be avoided, yet this is a cure so speedily effected by an expert *operator*, and the horse's suffering is so very trifling, that when a comparison is drawn between the temporary inconvenience, and the immediate advantage, no hesitation can be made respecting the operation.

It is admitted, against the operation, that the LAMPAS appearing in young *horses*, the rock constantly continues to flatten and the teeth to rise, consequently time alone may and consequently would surmount the obstruction; but where they are very prominent, the poor animal must patiently wait many months for a good *meal*; and will soon prove, by his *emaciated* appearance, the applicable transposition of the ancient adage, that “while the *teeth* grow the STEED starves.”

When the operation is performed, wash the part twice or thrice with the following :

TAKE honey of roses and tincture of myrrh, each one ounce.—Mix.

## QUITTOR.

A QUITTOR may originate in a blow, bruise, laceration, or what is called a *stub* between hair and hoof. An injury sustained, likely to constitute this blemish or defect, cannot be too soon submitted to the inspection of a FARRIER of extensive *practice*, whose conduct will be consequently regulated by a proper respect to his own reputation. I mean such application should be early made where the CASE is alarming ; or, in more superficial concerns, when by circumstances or neglect it becomes the immediate business of the operative FARRIER.

As injuries of the kind open a large field for instructions, many of which must consequently depend upon the appearances of the parts when injured, I can impart such directions only as correspond with the defect in  
its

its state of infancy :—So soon as the accident is discovered, (which it ought soon to be, in the general examination of a *borse's* feet, that should always take place upon his return from *chase* or *journey*), wash well with a sponge and warm water, to ensure a thorough cleansing ; then apply a pledget of tow, moistened with friar's balsam, tincture of myrrh, or camphorated spirits, repeating it once in twenty-four hours, covering the exact spot with a portion of sheet tea-lead, inclosed in a small piece of linen, bandaging firm. All *unctuous* or *greasy* applications should be avoided, and great care taken not to immerse the foot in dirt or water till the part is perfectly united, and the surface sufficiently hardened not to admit particles of sand, gravel, or any other extraneous matter. And this caution becomes the more necessary, when it is remembered that real QUITTORS have originated from this very want of attention more than in any other circumstance ; many having been formed and confirmed in what, properly managed, would have been merely a superficial and temporary inconvenience. See p. 160.

CURBS,

## C U R B S.

A **CURB** is too universally known to require a minute description; it is a considerable swelling below the hough, rather on the inside and back part of the hind leg, and seems to have been formed by an accumulation of extravasated fluids that, in their stagnation, have acquired a *callosity*. It is productive of perceptible pain in action, and soon establishes different degrees of lameness in different subjects. In its early state attempts may be made with some of the powerful repellents, p. 80 or 89; but, upon non-submission, after fair trial, recourse must be had to one of the following blisters, care being taken to secure the application by bandage, the better to ensure a probability of success.

TAKE mercurial ointment six drachms ;

Cantharides and euphorbium (in powder) each two drachms ;

Oil of origanum a drachm and a half ;

Corrosive mercury one drachm ;

Mix the ointment with the powders, and add the oil.

Or,

TAKE spirit of turpentine and olive oil each one ounce;

Euphorbium and cantharides each two drachms;

Oil of origanum three drachms. — Mix.

Where these applications are unattended with the desired success, the ceremony of firing by an expert and judicious operator, with the additional aid of long rest, are the only alternatives that can be adopted.

# R I N G B O N E S.

THE extirpation and cure of these come so immediately into the line of description and mode of treatment with the last article, as to render animadversion entirely unnecessary: they constitute an inconvenience very rarely to be surmounted in private practice, consequently fall to the inspection and management of the OPERATIVE FARRIER.

Docking,

Docking, cropping, nicking, and shoeing, are so immediately the concerns of the *smith* and *farrier*, that they claim no part of our attention in this publication, being totally unconnected with the investigation of disease or method of cure. It has been the intention, through the course of this work, to render both the original cause of complaint, and necessary administration of medicine, as clear as the nature of each case would admit; such explanatory passages having been blended with the different parts as must perfectly reconcile the whole to every comprehension. Enough has been said under the distinct heads of GREASE, HIDE-BOUND, SURFEIT, MANGE, and FARCY, to inculcate not only a just idea of the blood's circulation, its changes and effects, but to establish a clear and perfect conception of all those causes that constitute the foundation of diseases so long *sagaciously* distinguished by the denomination of "HUMOURS," in a failure of a more scientific or satisfactory explanation.

Influenced originally in the plan and formation of this work by no other motive than the  
general

general good ; and after twenty years experience and observation, being more perfectly convinced of the growing necessity for such publication, it is now submitted to *public inspection*, as a prelude to future improvement ; with an anxious wish that it may prove an excitement to some more powerful agent, whose superior abilities may do the subject greater JUSTICE.

ADDITIONAL

## ADDITIONAL REMARKS.

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**T**HE author having found it most applicable to the intentional utility of the preceding work, to form the different diseases, consequent effects, and resulting observations, into distinct classes, rendering the whole a chain of unprecedented convenience to the inquirer anxious for information; yet there remaining a variety of very useful observations and instructions that cannot with propriety be blended with either, it becomes absolutely necessary to elucidate the whole by such *additional remarks* as must render the work of much greater and more general utility.

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A circumstance no less worthy observation than any of those already enlarged on, is the very little respect paid to neatness and consistency in the management of draft horses, who, beyond every possibility of contradiction, not only earn their living more laboriously, but contribute more to the opulence and support of the natives than any other breed of horses in the kingdom. When I advert to the management of draft horses, I wish not to be understood the pampered carriage horses of the great, supported in the style of hunters, for the various purposes of public parade and personal ostentation; but that infinity of useful animals universally employed in agriculture, road waggon, the barge and coal trade, as well as many other purposes equally laborious and equally advantageous to commerce and the community. These horses have undoubtedly the greatest portion of labour, and most probably the least of care and attention; from the extensive concerns of the proprietors, they are more generally intrusted to the *very indifferent* management of servants; to whose accounts may be justly placed a majority of those defects or misfortunes that so frequently occur from blows, bruises,

bruises, and a long train of probable indiscretions. From such variety of carelessness, inattention, and improper management, proceed *bad eyes, broken wind, grease, cholic*, and many other incidental disquietudes: but what renders it a matter of still greater regret is, their falling under the unavoidable medical superintendence of those very VILLAGE farriers whose brilliancy of imagination and fertility of invention are so particularly displayed in different parts of the work.

Diseases so evidently resulting from neglect and bad management, may be as certainly prevented by proper care and attention; taking them therefore in rotation, we may venture to affirm—that by far the greater part of those defects in the eyes, frequently terminating in a loss of sight, are more the effect of external injuries than internal deficiencies. The multiplicity of horses, particularly of the *cart kind*, whose respiration is attended with so much difficulty upon all occasions, (but singularly so upon increased exertion) as to be termed “brokenwinded,” may be most readily and clearly accounted for in the following manner. Exclusive of what has been already said upon this  
subject

subject under its distinct head (and to which the reader is referred), a few additional observations become immediately applicable upon a subject of so much consequence, which cannot be too clearly explained, or too perfectly understood. For *time, observation, and experience*, having sufficiently demonstrated how very much the viscosity of the blood is increased by *coarse, full, and foul* feeding, there need be no hesitation in affirming the state of the *lungs*, (or, in a more familiar phrase, the state of the *wind*,) to be *more or less* affected by the *large or small* quantities of *chaff*, or gross latter crop of clover hay, consumed by this breed of horses during their constant work; particularly in *farmers' stables*, where a great part of their aliment consists of those articles with a small proportion of corn. Of chaff thus used and intermixed with the corn, let it be understood there are different kinds, as the chaff of *wheat, oats*, and a compound of hay and wheat straw cut together; of all which it is hardly possible to ascertain the most prejudicial. To these the winter consumption of peas-haum and barley-straw may be reckoned no inconsiderable additions, the great quantity masticated to gratify the appetite affording so little nutri-

ment in proportion to the accumulation, that the stomach is perpetually overloaded with gross and heavy impurities, which, by its evident pressure upon the *diaphragm*, not only affects the elasticity of the lungs (see p. 221.) but engenders a large portion of viscid glutinous matter, with which the finer vessels of the lungs, in broken-winded horses, are found to abound, upon inspection, after death.

To such strange and inconsistent manner of feeding may be added an absurdity of equal magnitude, in constant practice with the rustic world in general, but farmers' servants in particular, of permitting their horses to drink an immoderate and unrestrained quantity of water after full feeding, and the usual rotational abstinence of twelve hours; by which mode of practice the tendency to this defect is very much increased.

In respect to the similar failure in horses of a superior class, I will, without the least cause for hesitation, venture to pronounce more have been injured in this respect by the carelessness of *boys*, or inadvertency of *servants* (in that infernal system of **HARD GALLOPING** immediately

AFTER

AFTER water); than by any other means whatever; in fact, it is a plan so palpably contradictory and destructive, that it should never be permitted by the *master*, or adopted by the *groom*. And there can remain no shadow of doubt but this complaint in every class of horses may be mostly prevented by proper care and attention in the superintendants; the irregularities in *food*, *water*, and the inconsistencies already pointed out, contributing much more to the original cause of such defect than the erroneous formation of parts so *hypothetically* asserted by those who have wrote before upon this subject.

Another circumstance requiring the minute inspection and attentive observation of every proprietor of draft horses is, that injurious practice of country servants (called carters) in giving large quantities of *aniseed*, *diapente*, *fenugreek*, *elcampane*, and other powders, intermixed with their *food*, upon a weak and ill-founded opinion that those articles make their teams appear fine in coat and full in flesh: indeed so strongly are they bigoted to the opinion in many (but particularly the *western*) parts of England, that they expend, (unknown to their

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employers)

employers) a very considerable portion of their earnings to gratify this strange infatuation. But the evil does not rest here ; mischievous invention has gone still further, and they frequently apply *oil of vitriol*, and even *aqua fortis*, upon the *tongue* of the horse, to prevent, as they say, “ his taking cold by the use of the before-mentioned ingredients.” However absurd, inconsistent, *cruel*, or *unnatural*, this practice may appear, to such as are unacquainted with the low cunning or rustic finesse of those employed in the management of what are called “ cart stables,” I aver the fact, as repeatedly brought home to personal knowledge and experience ; asserting likewise its having occasionally cost me much trouble in endeavouring to deter the parties from so injurious and destructive a practice, by which alone many fine and valuable horses have been doomed to disquietude, disease, and sometimes *death*, the cause remaining a matter of mystery to all but the inhuman perpetrators. So palpable a fact stands in need of no farther animadversion, being introduced merely to prove that “ such things are,” and how evidently necessary the eye of circumspection becomes in the master, to counteract the mischievous imprudence of the servant.

We now come to a cause of disease very fully treated upon and clearly explained in the second class; and as there are few diseases productive of more trouble, expence, and disappointment (or so frequently relinquished as incurable), the necessary advice by way of prevention cannot be considered obtrusive. For minute observations upon the *grease* in *cart horses*, the reader is referred to page 100 of the work; in continuation of which it is absolutely necessary to recommend a total reduction of the enormous quantities of hair that is (in compliment to ancient custom) permitted to remain upon the legs and heels of horses of this description, that does, beyond every degree of doubt, contribute greatly to the original cause of this disease. For such predominant reason it is earnestly recommended to the proprietors of all draft horses whatever, to keep their heels as closely trimmed as possible; the advantages are numerous and striking; the harbour for dirt and filth in winter, and the formation of sweat and dust in summer, will be equally avoided; to which considerations may be added the legs being more readily and perfectly cleaned at *all seasons* of the year, and the indolence or

neglect of servants will, by these means, be more particularly counteracted.

No just cause can be assigned by the most obstinate why the heels should not be kept equally clean with the carcass ; it is a mode of conduct universally adopted with horses of a superior class, and reason justifies the assertion—that it is as absolutely proper and conducive to health with the one as the other. In addition to this precaution, there is another equally necessary upon the least appearance of *crack, scratch,* or eruption ; the parts should be immediately washed well with a substantial lather of soap and soft water, then wiped dry, and managed as directed, p. 93, assisting with a course of DIURETIC BALLS, selected from the index ; for which purpose no medicine can be more admirably adapted, as they generally stimulate and gradually promote the secretions, carrying off, by the mildness of their operation, those sluggish viscidities that found the origin of disease. It is also a circumstance of material consolation to the owner, that, during this course, the horse is perfectly adequate to his ordinary employment, free from the restraint he must  
be



be consequently laid under by the usual purging medicines; and the least doubt need not be entertained but such seasonable administration will obliterate the foundation of much disquietude and trouble.

The last subject we shall enlarge upon of this kind is very frequently both dangerous and alarming, being in general caused more by the inexperience or indiscretion of *boys*, neglect of *servants*, or want of knowledge in the *master*, than any other complaint in the long list of diseases to which the horse is incident. Experience and accurate observation fully justify the declaration that *nineteen* out of every *twenty*, attacked with the flatulent cholic, or *fret*, become so from the previous and uncertain quantity of water inconsiderately given, or permitted to be taken, either when they are exceedingly hot and the blood in the state of increased circulation, or after being kept a considerable time in extreme thirst; when, in either case, it is generally known they will swallow very large quantities with the greatest avidity. And it may not be considered inapplicable to observe, that, since the former editions of this work appeared in public, I have been twice requested

to give my opinion and advice in different cases of the *flatulent cholera*, occasioned by the inadvertency of servant boys, who had unluckily brought on the complaint in its utmost severity by the very means before-mentioned, as well as a singular case of the *strangury*, by the horse's being continued his round in a mill, without permission to stale, notwithstanding his indications and frequent attempts for that purpose. These illusions are introduced merely to prove the indubitable fact, that such instances occur much more from inattention and neglect than the effect of chance,

Having communicated such information upon the cause of these diseases as may probably contribute, in some degree, to their prevention, it becomes equally necessary to introduce a few additional remarks upon casual inconveniences that very frequently occur, and yet could not possibly be ranked in any of the particular classes that constitute the body of the work. The disagreeable consequences that sometimes happen from the common operation of *bleeding* (by an injudicious or inexperienced practitioner) seem first entitled to observation; more particularly as instances are not wanting of very  
alarms

alarming swellings forming immediately on the part of incision, some of which terminate very unfavourably, either in an indurated tumour, a painful inflammation, tedious suppuration, and consequent discharge of matter; a loss of the vein; or (by imprudent and injudicious treatment) more distressing events than either. Such cases should always be particularly attended to upon their earliest appearance, when there is little doubt but they will soon submit to the following mode of management, which I have never yet known once to fail in a great variety of cases.

TAKE extract of Saturn, commonly called Goulard,  
one ounce;  
Pond, or river water, half a pint;  
Camphorated spirits two ounces.

The extract and camphorated spirits to be first well shaken together, then add the water, letting the tumour and surrounding parts be most plentifully bathed with the composition three times a day, bandaging on a flannel or substantial pledget of tow wet with the same, till the swelling subsides and is nearly obliterated.

The

The opposite opinions that have been confidently promulgated, upon the properties of Goulard's extract of Saturn, afford applicable opportunity to venture a few words upon its qualities, and the estimation it is held in, and entitled to, among those whose extensive practice must have enabled them to decide upon the certainty of its effects. Every valuable discovery unavoidably meets its opponents from either pique, prejudice, obstinacy, or ignorance; the virtues of this medicine as an external may therefore not be universally acknowledged; but, so far as a long and attentive experience will permit me to decide, I feel myself fully justified in contributing my mite of approbation to the extent of its efficacy upon numerous occasions. Particularly as a very powerful corroborant in deep seated strains; a repellent in the early state of inflammatory and painful swellings, as well as a general specific in most injuries to the eye, by blows, bruises, or external accidents: its peculiar property of preventing gangrene or mortification, by plentiful incorporation with poultices, or other topical applications, will be fully proved by those who have occasion to make the experiment.

By

By this small and disinterested tribute to its excellencies, I mean not to be considered its immaculate panegyrist, extolling its efficacy to a degree of unlimited infallibility, ranking it with the *nostrums* of the day, and publishing a *fashionable certificate* of its possessing the property of banishing every possible ill; but to bring its properties fairly into the scale of public investigation, upon the foundation of my own recommendation, justified by accurate observation; affording me every reason to believe that, where it has been brought into use without any good effects being produced by the application, it has failed more from the injudicious dilution of the prescriber, or inferior quality of the preparation, than any want of efficacy in the medicine alone; and this I am the more readily induced to believe, by the repeated discoveries of erroneous proportions in composition, even upon the confessions of those whose want of practice had left them totally inadequate to the task of forming a competent opinion upon the different cases they had undertaken.

From this medical animadversion we return to the consideration of tumours before described,

which, having taken a view of in their early state, we proceed to consider in the more advanced and dangerous stages. Upon their non-submission to the treatment already explained, a tendency to induration or suppuration may naturally be expected, and in fact discovered upon close examination ; this being perceived, the latter had better be solicited by every possible means, beginning with the poultices and fomentations selected from the Index ; where a variety may be found under their different heads. If appearances are favourable, promising speedy maturation, let the treatment be regulated by the directions, p. 115, the progress and cure being promoted by the very means so minutely described. But, should these endeavours be productive of disappointment, and no step gained towards a discharge of matter, the swelling retaining its original firmness, without the least indication of fluctuation, an induration of the tumour may be apprehended ; to prevent which, stimulating spirituous applications become immediately necessary, and should be plentifully bestowed :

T A K E

TAKE spirits of wine half a pint ;

Camphire six drachms ;

Oil of origanum two drachms ;

Dissolve the camphire in the spirits of wine (by frequent shaking), then add the oil of origanum.

The part tumefied to be well bathed with a sufficient proportion of this liniment twice or thrice a day, leaving a flannel or pledget of tow upon the part wet with the same, bandaging up warm ; this, by its penetrative property, will so resolve and rarefy the contents of the tumour, and stimulate the vessels, as to leave but little doubt of a gradual repulsion. Should that however not take place so soon as expected, two drachms of the strong mercurial ointment had better be well rubbed upon the part every morning, about two hours preceding the use of the spirituous application before prescribed. If the swelling has been permitted to remain so long unattended to, that this mode of treatment becomes ineffectual, there is very little hopes of removing the blemish by any other means, and, in all probability, they had better never be attempted.

There

There are other instructions necessary to introduce upon certain complaints, that, like those before-mentioned, have not been definable under any of the distinct classes that form the body of the work. Of these a *canker* in the foot seems entitled to preference, as a defect or misfortune attended with great pain and disquietude to the horse, as well as constant anxiety and loss of labour to the master. This complaint is in general occasioned by neglect, in suffering the *thrush* (by its unchecked continuance) to assume a degree of inveteracy, corroding the surrounding parts and consuming the frog by its acrimonious and penetrative property; promoting the growth of fungus in proportion to the destruction of parts originally sound. The safest and most expeditious method of reducing, which will be by occasional applications of lint well impregnated with the following lotion, and properly secured upon the part, till, being entirely subdued, the cure may be effected with dressings of the precipitate digestive (p. 163), and the surface afterwards hardened by washing with tincture of myrrh :

TAKE



TAKE of corrosive sublimate and Roman vitriol, of each one drachm ;

Spirits of wine one ounce ;

Spring water half a gill.

Let the sublimate and vitriol be reduced to a very fine powder in a mortar ; then add the spirits by small proportions ; and, lastly, the water, keeping the whole closely stopped for use.

To prevent defects in the feet, good stable management is at all times necessary, but more particularly that kind of management distinctly adapted to the foot of the horse ; for every experienced sportsman or judicious observer must have perceived how very much the state of the feet vary in different subjects ; the hoofs of some horses being exceedingly hard and brittle, others equally soft and spongy. It is worthy observation that the feet of all horses are generally managed in the same way, without reverting to this material consideration ; that is, by stopping the bottom and oiling the hoof ; a mode of treatment exceedingly proper with the hard-footed horse, but by no means with the other. Horses whose hoofs are soft and spongy,  
or,

or the frog impaired, should have their feet stopped, as directed in p. 95, and the hoof frequently hardened with vinegar, chamber-lye, or salt and water.

A canker in the mouth is frequently very troublesome from its situation, and sometimes productive of great disquietude by the length of its continuance ; it originates in any excoriation or wound in the mouth, becoming foul, and containing a corroding slough (in the nature of a *sit/ast*) that must be brought away or destroyed before a cicatrix can be formed to perfect a cure. Various ancient rules and prescriptions have been transmitted from generation to generation for the performance of this elaborate business ; some totally inadequate to the intent, and others so *efficaciously* powerful as to render the remedy worse than the disease. To remove every degree of suspence, as well as prevent trouble and disappointment in the pursuits of nostrums and *far-fetched* remedies, the following method of cure may be relied upon :

TAKE

**SANDCRACKS** are cavities or cracks in some part of the hoof that are in general longitudinal, and the effect of a spontaneous separation, occasioned by the hardness of the hoof, or some external injury upon the part. Such defect, whether from chance or accident, should be well examined so soon as perceived, and the mode of management regulated by appearances. The leading points are to prevent the admission of dirt or gravel, and to harden the surface with frequent applications of tincture of myrrh; avoiding all unctuous and greasy applications till the cure is completed. On the contrary, should the case prove internal and deep seated, the assistance of an operative farrier of extensive practice cannot be too soon obtained, to prevent, if possible, those ble-

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mishes and defects of the feet that inevitably reduce a horse to little or no value whenever they happen.

The necessary and unavoidable remarks upon the management of draft horses in the Appendix, and the additional observations interspersed with the work, render unnecessary every apology for their introduction ; particularly when it is known to have originated in an anxious desire of the author to render the whole as perfect as possible, in gratitude for its very flattering reception though several large editions.

S U P P L E M E N T

TO THE

GENTLEMAN'S STABLE DIRECTORY,

OR

MODERN SYSTEM OF FARRIERY.

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**T**HE unlimited approbation of an indulgent public having ranked the Directory very high in general estimation, it would display an evident want of gratitude in the author not to render the work as perfect as a constant accumulation of *experimental remarks* will permit, and to further increase its acknowledged utility, by the addition of every professional *improvement* that can in the least tend to enlighten a subject so eagerly investigated even

by those who formerly affected to neglect the superintendence of both *studs* and *stables*, as matters too trifling for *personal* consideration.

Such indifference is no longer to be observed, or complained of, among the most opulent or fashionable; for the wonderful avidity with which the numerous editions of the *Stable Directory* have been purchased in this, and *repeatedly printed* in a neighbouring kingdom, are demonstrative proofs that the subject has acquired *new life* from such publication, and that the *medical* and *chirurgical* parts of Farriery are emerging very rapidly from the *rude* and *illiterate* hands in which they were originally placed.

Upon this flattering improvement the author has to gratulate the public, as well as his own sensations, upon a series of such uninterrupted success; for the great purport of his publication may be considered in a certain degree gratified, when the first fortunes and abilities no longer silently and implicitly submit the noblest and most valuable animal on earth to the ignorance and obstinacy of every unenlightened adventurer, but with a generous emulation

emulation condescend to investigate the origin of disease, and comprehend the rational method of cure. This palpable conviction has arisen from the very great number of noblemen and gentlemen of the first eminence, who have not only honoured the author with their confidence and correspondence, upon the utility of his Directory, and the great efficacy of his Medicines, but called in his assistance upon cases of the greatest *difficulty* and *danger*, where a strict attention to his instructions has been attended with the *most perfect success*.

“

In a work of so much extent, involving such variety, and aiming so much at general reformation, perfection *at first* was not, *could not*, be expected; constantly increasing practice and experience, with incessant application and attention, must *perpetually* throw new lights upon many parts of the whole, and render perfectly applicable the communication of such remarks as may tend to make complete as possible, a tract, in which the public at large have proved themselves so immediately inte-

Thus far by way of apology for introducing, under the appendage of *a Supplement*, what became in fact a matter indispensable; for to its *necessity* such a combination of circumstances bear powerful evidence, that it was no longer to be avoided: the *literary* complaints of *some*, and *anonymous* expostulations of *others*, upon the subjects we proceed to treat, as well as the personal superintendence and assistance the author has been required to give, in these very cases, *singular, alarming*, and even *fatal*, where nature has been ridiculously checked, or obstinately opposed, render superfluous any farther defence for its introduction.

Although the subject matter of this *addition* is supposed to constitute a mere animadversion upon lameness proceeding from thorn wounds, and punctured or lacerated tendons, yet there are variety of experimental observations (however inferior, individually considered) that become equally necessary to our present design of rendering the work as nearly applicable as possible to the wants or wishes of so very numerous a body of readers,

To



To justify, in a great measure, the mode of practice to be inculcated, and hereafter laid down; to counteract the malicious or prejudiced remarks of the interested or dissatisfied, as well as to establish, upon an *incontrovertible basis*, the rational, proper, and successful methods of treatment, *recent cases* in point will be quoted; and however improper it may be to introduce the names of characters too eminent for such publication, yet no kind of secrecy will be at all necessary respecting the parties, whenever those subjects become the professional topics of conversation between the author and his friends.

Such *cases* will be likewise illustrated to demonstrate the consistency, propriety, and success of *modern practice*, in opposition to the ancient system, so repeatedly enlarged upon in the course of the work. A very great number of literary applications having been addressed to the author, from different parts of the kingdom, requiring a further explanation upon *many* subjects, and a continuation of *others*, it is his earnest desire to elucidate *every passage*, so as to render it perfectly clear, and to descend to such *minutiæ*, for the gratification of

inquirers, as did not appear so immediately necessary in the first formation of the Directory.

But the doubts of *some*, and the timidity (added to the inexperience) of *others*, having thrown difficulties in the way of the most simple operations, it becomes a duty incumbent to obviate those complaints, and leave in future (if possible) little room for opposition from the interested or dissatisfied.

These observations are only made to prevent surprise at the occasional introduction of some remarks in the course of this addition, that may, to the more experienced and enlightened reader, seem very much inferior to the magnitude of the subject, not considering how many there are whose infantile judgment must receive *every instruction* from the pages before them.

Under the influence of this consideration it becomes (particularly after the frequent opposition from servants or grooms) perfectly applicable to introduce a few instructions upon the very simple act of *neatly delivering* a ball to the  
horse,

horse, without a fear of regurgitation ; a circumstance that very frequently happens to those who are little acquainted with the proper mode of operation : and these directions will not (to many) appear so immediately necessary, unless I communicate what will hardly be thought *possible*, but by those who know the circumstances to be well authenticated, in my own neighbourhood, where it very lately occurred.

A valuable horse, the property of Capt. W.—, having been under a course of the Pectoral Cordial Balls for a severe cold, eleven had been given without the least difficulty ; but in giving the twelfth and last of the course, the servant not perceiving the ball pass the gullet, erroneously conceived the ball was lodged in the throat, and (ridiculous as it may seem) absolutely set most manfully to work with *half a broom handle* to dislodge the ball, till he had so bruised and lacerated the surrounding parts, that a violent inflammation ensued, and it was not till after the industrious efforts of a fortnight, that the poor animal could be pronounced out of danger from this *new* and very extraordinary mode of operation.

To

To obviate such trouble, and to render unnecessary the use of the farrier's *favourite instrument*, "a balling iron," (only calculated to increase the difficulty), I presume to introduce such instructions for the administration of a ball as will enable the operator to deliver it with the greatest ease to himself and safety to his patient. First holding the ball in the *right hand*, longitudinally and equally surrounded by the fingers and thumb, let the *left* be insinuated on the off side of the mouth, when, taking gently hold of the tongue, draw it steadily out between the tusk and the grinders, then grasping it with great firmness, introduce the right hand with the ball, and passing it up with a proper degree of resolution, to the highest possible point, lodge it upon the root of the tongue, instantly pushing it forward with your fingers, and withdrawing your hand, place it under his jaw, let loose the tongue, and raise his head, where, holding it for a very short space, the ball is perceived to pass without the least difficulty: while, on the contrary, a horse, either timid or refractory, is made much more so by the painful use of an iron that, from its very shape, appearance, and method of introduction, is evidently calculated to promote

mote or increase the difficulty it was intended to prevent.

These particulars, trifling as they may appear to those expert in the practice, are nevertheless more particularly necessary in the present improving state of medicine, where reformation is making such rapid strides, that the adventurous opinions of rustic farriers, and the dangerous compositions they provide, bid exceedingly fair to encounter a partial oblivion : and as numbers of the first sporting eminence have publicly declared their unalterable determination to commence and continue their *own farriers*, such directions cannot be too clearly explained or universally known.

It will, previous to a continuation upon the subject, be perfectly in point to observe, it was not till after a very rapid sale of the *third edition* of the STABLE DIRECTORY, that I entertained the least idea of preparing my most *efficacious medicines* for the accommodation of the public in general ; and even then the thought occurred not more from the frequent supplies required by noblemen and gentlemen at remote distances, than an observation of great weight

weight, made by one of the most opulent sporting characters in the kingdom.

‘ That having repeatedly purchased his  
 ‘ Purging Balls ready prepared, he was eter-  
 ‘ nally perplexed and disappointed in their  
 ‘ effects ; some being exceedingly *violent* and  
 ‘ *dangerous*, while others under the same *name*,  
 ‘ *price*, and *description*, were scarcely per-  
 ‘ ceptible in the operation, and this frequently  
 ‘ happened in the same subject ; a contrast so  
 ‘ opposite, he could no way reconcile but by  
 ‘ a supposition that so large a quantity might  
 ‘ be made together, as to render impracticable  
 ‘ a regular incorporation of the ingredients.’

A remark so perfectly apposite and apparently just, immediately determined me upon the personal preparation of my most powerful prescriptions, under the *seal and signature* of

“ TAPLIN’S GENUINE HORSE MEDICINES,”

as a counteraction to the adulteration so fully explained in the preface ; and it is no small recommendation to the undertaking, or gratification to the proprietor, that, from the first  
 hour

hour of embarkation, amidst the incredible consumption in the metropolis, and almost every part of England, to the amount of *many hundred dozens*, not a single complaint of the inefficacy of *purgatives, pectorals, diuretics*, or any of the whole list of his advertised medicines, has ever reached the author. On the contrary, innumerable congratulations upon *their* various good effects are constant in arrival; but as declarations bearing so much the appearance of fashionable attachment to *self-interest*, will not be universally believed palpable proofs of their genuine utility, the applicable introduction of a few concise instances of their acknowledged efficacy, cannot be considered obtrusive, when evidently and equally adapted to the promotion of *public good*.

Before I proceed to the investigation and proper treatment of thorn wounds, punctured or lacerated tendons, and their dreadful effects, it becomes absolutely necessary, I refer the reader to my conclusive remarks upon WIND-GALLS, in the class under that head, in the early part of the STABLE DIRECTORY, where it will be found how very emphatically I have represented the *hazard*, the *danger* (not to add the

*jolly*) of attempting their cure by perforation, and endeavoured to inculcate, *most forcibly*, the only probability of succeeding in the effort, by ‘performing the operation with a *bistoury*, and ‘the motion of *elevation*.’

After such cautions, so earnestly urged, it is strange to relate that within the circle of my own practice, I have been required to give my assistance in *two cases*, where very fine and valuable horses have been irretrievably lost, and doomed to the hounds they had so nobly followed, by the rash and imprudent officiousness of two of the faculty, who, presuming most certainly more on their confidence than their judgment, sacrificed to self-consequence and the destructive lancet, hunters of *figure, fashion, speed*, and *value*, not to be exceeded in the kingdom; strengthening by their imprudence, the observation of a celebrated writer, ‘that ‘more have died by the improper use of the ‘lancet than the point of the sword.’

To prevent in future (if possible) such contemptible efforts of professional sterility, to guard the unwary from becoming dupes to their own credulity, and the dangerous efforts  
of



of hazardous experiments, is much more the motive of inducement to recite such cases, than any promised expectation of permanent relief from the mode of treatment most applicable to the predominant symptoms of either, which will nevertheless be accurately explained.

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C A S E  
O F A  
PUNCTURED TENDON.

IN the month of August, 1788, I was applied to by a character of the first eminence, to give my opinion upon one of the first hunters in England, for which he had been repeatedly offered a hundred and twenty guineas. Upon my arrival I found the horse labouring under the most excruciating and indescribable agony, totally unable to set his off hind foot to the ground, and, from the highest possible condition, very much emaciated in a few days with the extremity of pain. Investigating by in-

quiry the cause of complaint, I was informed that a student in surgery, from one of the hospitals, had lately been upon a visit to the family; he was frequently in the stables, and perceiving an enlargement just above the footlock joint, which denominating a *windgall*, he displayed a great desire to obliterate by *perforation*. This being too kindly (too inadvertently) permitted by the owner, he attempted the operation with a *common lancet*, but with so little fortitude and success, that in making his incision, the natural motion and rejecting effort of the animal, fascinated the inexperienced operator in his first attempt, and deprived him of his instrument (which was the next day found in the litter), but not till he had given a destructive proof of his inability, and afforded a most striking corroboration of the remarks before alluded to in "The Directory," upon this unlucky mode of extirpation.

Proceeding to minute inspection, I found the whole joint and surrounding parts in the highest state of tension and inflammation; the orifice of the injury so very trifling as barely to admit the end of a probe, and so exceeding painful as not to bear the least pressure, but by  
much

much difficulty and perseverance; from every predominant symptom (and they were all equally violent), I could not entertain a momentary doubt, but the *extensor tendon* was as much punctured, lacerated, or divided, as the diminutive size of the instrument used; and the obstructive motion of the horse would admit. This apparent fact I was induced to believe (by the severity of pain; and almost uncommon violence of symptoms,) that the point of the lancet was *broken off* in the attempt, and retained in the wound: upon premising this fear to the groom, he assured me that was not the case; for the instrument was perfect *when found*. How that could be, after remaining under a horse in his litter for twenty-four hours (as the lancet was not produced) will never be clearly reconciled to my *own opinion*, who have so constantly such an instrument in my hand.

To return: finding the orifice (small as it was) discharge, *upon pressure*, a bloody ichor, or indigested sanies, and the edges to have acquired a very rigid callosity, I determined (that the digestion might not be a moment retarded, when sufficiently suppurated for separation) to enlarge the orifice, by dividing the

F f                      integument

integument *superficially* with the bistory, to the length of an inch in the whole.

I then proceeded to the immediate use of a fomentation, prepared exceedingly strong from the various aromatic herbs, as rosemary and lavender blended with wormwood and camomile, continuing to foment the whole limb, from above the hough downwards, with a large sponge, constantly impregnated with the decoction, hot as it could be applied, without injury, for at least a quarter of an hour, then dressing with a pledget of very warm yellow digestive, covered the whole *affected part* with a powerful suppurative poultice, and repeated the fomentation, dressing, and poultice, twice every day, till a tolerable discharge was promoted, which was not for some considerable time; and even then effected by increasing the heat of the fomentation and the strength of the poultice, as much as circumstances would bear.

The general intent of the treatment was in some degree answered; for the pain was greatly mitigated (*except in motion*) and the discharge moderate, but so very *fætid*, and of so corrosive

rofive a tendency, that it formed *sinuses* in every direction downwards, furrounding the bones to the different depths of two, three, or four inches. A separation of parts in the present complication was absolutely impracticable, without rendering to a certainty the remedy worse than the disease. Thus situated, no hope of cure could be entertained but by a reünion of the divided parts; to promote which, a constant syringing with detergents was adopted at every dressing, the wound was covered with lint, plentifully impregnated with the stable digestive, as warm as could be applied with safety, first insinuating as much as possible within the orifice (in the manner of a tent), and covering all with a common poultice of bread, milk, and oil, as the best bed for so tender a part.

By a perseverance in this mode of treatment the sinuses were perfectly united from the bottom, and the wound completely healed (or cicatrized) in little more than a month from the time of my being called in, with no other *external* inconvenience than a trifling enlargement of the joint, and an apparent callosity of the integument. But, as I had every reason to

believe, from the first moment of inspection, so it terminated, in opposition to every humane endeavour of the owner; for, after a run of near twelve months, with no other perceptible advantage than a seeming relief from violent pain, and without the power of walking or using even *gentle motion* with the foot affected, an end was unavoidably put to his existence, amply demonstrating the danger of experiments, and the prudence of sometimes

“ Bearing those ills we have,

“ Rather than fly to others we know not of.”

A case of the same complexion, and produced by the *very same means*, will hereafter come under recital; but, as its termination has been very different from the former, I shall introduce others in the way they occurred.

After all that has been theoretically and practically advanced by different writers (including what has been said upon the same subject in the *The Stable Directory*) it will, no doubt, afford the most singular satisfaction to many, that an opportunity has offered to introduce a successful and well authenticated case of the Farcy, where a complete cure has been effected

effected by the rational system already laid down, with no other variations but such as temporary appearances rendered unavoidably necessary.

A S U C C E S S F U L C A S E  
OF  
THE F A R C Y.

IN the month of September, 1788, I was called to one of the most opulent characters in Windsor-Forest (residing in the neighbourhood of the case before-mentioned), who, having a blood mare labouring under a very severe and uncommon eruption, was told by his groom and stable attendants, that the disease in question was the Farcy, for which *no cure* could be expected.

Having consulted every author in his library  
(and they were all there) who had written

upon the diseases of horses, he was pleased to say, ‘ he could discover no satisfactory investigation or explanation of the origin, no systematic mode of treatment, or probability of cure, but in the Stable Directory ; which had given him so perfect a representation of FARRIERS’ practice in general, that he was determined to entrust no case of consequence to their management, and enjoined me to undertake the superintendence.’ I found, upon inquiry, the mare had been bled in an early stage of the appearance ; but, the owner being a long time absent from home, the mare had been continued at full feed, and no medicinal step taken to restrain or counteract the progress of disease,

That I might the better ascertain the present state of the blood, I ordered three pints to be taken away, which, almost immediately after its extravasation, formed a rigid coagulum, producing upon the surface a coat of size more than two inches thick, so *very viscid* that a pen-knife, exceedingly sharp, barely effected its separation, the crassamentum uncommonly livid and adhesive, denoting a great degree of inflammation.

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This was the exact state I had reason to believe I should find it in, from every external appearance and examination ; for, upon taking off the pellicle from any particular pustule, I observed the discharge to be of glutinous consistence, putrid, and offensive, very different from what we sometimes find *an acrimonious ichor*. As a preparatory step to the introduction of medicine, I instantly altered the regimen to warm mashes three times a day, with hay in small quantities, and one ounce of nitre dissolved in both the morning and evening portions of water, making two ounces for every twenty-four hours : during this mode of commencement, I perceived the off leg behind to swell so rapidly, from the footlock joint to the stifle, and throw out such a general fulness, particularly on the inside the thigh, that I could not entertain a momentary doubt but a critical formation of matter would inevitably take place. To promote which, with all possible expediton, I encreased the support, by substituting plenty of corn for the mashes, and called in the additional aid of strong and frequent fomentations, hot as could be used without injury (with two large pieces of sponge alternately)

alternately) for the threatened suppuration was too extensive to admit the application of poultices by any bandage that could be invented. This crisis was evidently an effort of Nature in our favour, and a few days afforded great probability of success; for two small apertures appearing on the inside of the thigh, at about three inches distance (from which flowed matter of the consistency before described), and the probe passing directly through both, forming a complete sinus, I made an entire separation with a bistory, and obtained a discharge almost incredible. I persevered in my fomentation, and dressed with warm digestive; but at the second dressing I discovered deep seated sinuses forming in different directions, and surrounding the hough joints, where no sharp pointed instruments could be insinuated without danger. In the next four-and-twenty hours another wound appeared on rather the fore part of the inside of the joint, directly upon the *flexor tendon*, bearing all the marks of virulence and inveteracy, continuing to throw out such successions of fungus as not to be conceived by those unacquainted with the practice.

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In this predicament followed a second struggle for superiority between the natural anxiety and impatience of the employer, and the judgment and reputation of the employed; the former repeatedly dooming the patient to the king's kennel at Ascot, the latter as constantly imploring *her respite*; which having with much difficulty finally obtained, I immediately formed my medical arrangement, and proceeded without variation or interruption in the following way.—Having two days before begun a course of my (advertised) alterative powders, in the morning and evening feeds of corn, (first sprinkled with water to insure their adhesion and consumption), I now added an ounce of Peruvian bark in powder to be given twice every day, in three quarters of a pint of thin gruel, repeating the ounce of nitre in the water, night and morning, without intermission.

I adopted this plan, upon a perfect confidence that such system would effect all that could be expected from medicines *internally*; then directing my attention to the complicated wounds and sinuses (that in fact bore a desperate aspect), my great hope and expectation consisted

consisted in correcting the morbid matter, and supporting nature ; as neither strength or appetite seemed yet to fail, nor had constant pain visibly distressed the patient, or reduced the frame.

The almost unprecedented growth of fungus bidding defiance to every consistent *corrosive caustic*, or *escharotic*, I had no alternative to effect my purpose but the edge of the knife ; to this never failing resource I daily applied for extirpation, repeating the superficial scarifications longitudinally and transversely, so as not only to excite plentiful discharges of grumous inflammatory blood, but to disunite and destroy the very foundation of this obstruction to cure. After these scarifications the wounds were dressed with the precipitate ointment, and covered with warm digestive, a mode of treatment that soon gave the whole a very healthy appearance, and promised gradual improvement.

As I have before observed, the sinuses were so situated amidst the muscular and ligamentary parts, that instrumental separation was not only dangerous but impossible ; a cure  
could

could therefore only be obtained by a perseverance in the mode of treatment best adapted to the exigency of disease. Availing myself of experimental observation, I continued to cleanse them thoroughly at every dressing with the injection of tincture of myrrh (by means of a long-necked ivory syringe), the best *balsamic detergent* for foul wounds, inveterate ulcers, or deep seated sinuses, I have been able to discover in the whole class of externals, during a long and attentive practice.

Proceeding regularly in this track, with a punctual administration of the internal medicines before recited, and the external applications so minutely described, the mare, in little more than six weeks, was completely cured, perfectly free from every appearance of *eruption*, *lameness*, or *disease*, and is now in foal by a celebrated Arabian of the Royal stud.

To those who may wish to have farther animadversion upon the distinct and acting properties of the medicines internally applied, I can only observe, such explanation would very far exceed the limits originally prescribed for the extent of this addition; it must therefore suffice

suffice to say, if I had formed a hope of reducing *inflammation*, correcting *acrimony*, and rescuing the whole mass of blood from an inveterate and dangerous state of *morbidity*, by the use of the *alterative powders*, *bark*, and *nitre*, I must consider myself exceedingly fortunate, that they completed, in *conjunction*, what, perhaps, might *never* have been effected by *any part* of the whole.

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A S U C C E S S F U L C A S E  
O F  
L I G A M E N T A R Y L A M E N E S S.

THE former case was succeeded by a severe ligamentary lameness in the carriage-horse of a gentleman, within three miles of my own residence, that had sustained considerable injury in the articulation of the *hip joint*, by a violent fall, in suddenly slipping up when wantonly exerting himself (at liberty) with his  
companion

companion returning from pasture; the lameness was so very severe that it was with the greatest difficulty he could draw the near hind leg after him, and felt great perceptible pain in being obliged to move it forward, which he did with palpable reluctance, not bearing the least weight upon it, or hardly permitting it to touch the ground.

In four days after the accident, I was required to give my assistance, and found, by the external appearance, that the article called *opodeldoc* had been very plentifully used, till the soap it contained had so caked and accumulated upon the surface, (cementing the hair into such a solid mass) as to render the penetration of any spirituous application absolutely impossible. This fact I clearly demonstrated to the owner, and was not at all surprised to hear he had reaped no advantage from his industrious application.

It was unavoidably necessary to adopt a very different mode of proceeding; I therefore recommended the immediate and frequent use (three times a day) of a strong and hot fomentation with a sponge, as before directed, not  
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only to thoroughly cleanse the surrounding parts from the *japonaceous obstruction* of corroborants, but to take off the stricture from the part, and relax the porous system, preparatory to the rubbing in of the following stimulants, that their penetrative properties might obtain the readier powers of action upon the internal parts affected.

After the use of the fomentation for full ten minutes, I ordered half a gill (two ounces) of *camphorated spirits* to be gradually rubbed over the whole, immediately following it up with the same quantity of my advertised "*embrocation for lameness or strains*," rubbing it in with such degree of perseverance, as to leave no doubt of its penetration, and to let these be repeated after each time of using the fomentation.

Having superintended this ceremony at the first operation, I was requested to give my opinion, "how long I imagined it might be before the horse would be able to bear his (post chaise) part of a journey to Southampton, which the family was under promise to make?"—To which I undoubtedly replied,  
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the task of decision was too arduous to undertake, but in less than a month or six weeks was not to be expected.—On the fourth day, however, the servant was dispatched for a supply of camphorated spirits, and another bottle of the embrocation, with information from his master, that “the horse was mending surprisingly.” In a few days after, having a professional journey to the same neighbourhood, I made inquiry a matter of convenience, and found at the house that the horse had set out upon his journey, with the family, in about *ten days* after my being called in, from whence he returned as perfectly sound as before the accident.

From the circumstances of this case (amidst many others), I am induced to bring forward an observation I have repeatedly made upon the use of *opodeldoc* in animals, where its most essential parts cannot come into immediate contact with the skin, as is evidently the state of the case with horses, cattle, dogs, &c. where the hair, in greater or less quantities, upon the integument, so entirely absorb the soap in the first operation of rubbing, as to form an adhesive obstruction to porous admission, and a  
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consequent

consequent rejection of the more penetrative ingredients in every future application. And I cannot indulge the shadow of doubt, but those who have tried the experiment, or made the observation, will easily recollect the *saponaceous mass and obstruction* upon the surface I have endeavoured to explain. Under this conviction (and the best of conviction, incontrovertible experience) I will venture to affirm, however applicable and useful it may be universally acknowledged for various complaints of the human frame, I shall never subscribe to any pre-eminence of efficacy in its application to quadrupeds.

C A S E

## C A S E

## O F A

## UNCTURED OR LACERATED TENDON.

IN the month of November 1789, I received a letter of solicitation from a gentleman very high in a certain royal establishment, requesting my immediate attendance in London to give my opinion upon a horse that, from a mere superficial defect, and *complicated experiments*, was rendered a perfect cripple, without hope or expectation of cure. In such predicament, it became a determined decision with the proprietor, that my personal investigation should conclude the scene of anxiety, by dooming the subject to *immediate death*, or producing a plausible ray of hope for his recovery.

Upon my arrival in town, and introduction to the owner, I received informatton, that about three months before, a kind of flatulent

or fluctuating tumour appeared upon the inside of the near hough, displaying great tenderness upon pressure, and considerable pain in action; notwithstanding which, it was observed to vary so much in effect, as to be productive of lameness at one time and not at another. These circumstances were communicated by the groom to his master, and by him in casual conversation to one of the faculty, a surgeon of no small eminence, who kindly offering his assistance, a chirurgical inspection took place, which terminated in the daily application of different poultices to promote suppuration; these were continued till the joint opinion of surgeon and groom pronounced the matter “perfectly ripe” for expulsion. Under such consultation, in the absence of the owner, the incision was unluckily made, and still *more unluckily*, immediately upon the *flexor tendon*, and directly upon the part where it lay nearest the surface. To the disappointment in this operation, succeeded distrusts, discontent, and cavillings, between the projectors; for no *matter*, no *sanies*, digested or indigested, following the instrument of separation, mutual contention ensued, and language little short of reproach prevailed with either party. This

contrariety of opinion (something similar to the frequent opposition between doctor and nurse) soon effected the entire abdication of the superior, and left the groom to an uninterrupted exertion of his own judgment and medical abilities. To prove the extent of which, he prepared an artificial probe, and continued its constant introduction, for two inches or more, directly upon *the tendon*, thereby abraiding and rendering more irritable a part already injured, and consequently susceptible of additional pain upon every erroneous application. His master was still absent (in a distant part of the kingdom) and the case became every day more alarming, not only in its constantly increasing enlargement of the joint, but perpetual and incessant pain, from which he had no relief. Nature had, in opposition to the interpositions of art, closed the orifice and healed the wound; notwithstanding which, the lameness was greater than before. This was matter of additional perplexity to the *scientific* superintendent, who was now convinced nothing but a practice *entirely new* could succeed.

The better to establish which (upon a vulgar and generally received opinion, that *mercury* is a

specific for every ill) he procured a pot of *strong mercurial ointment*, and persevered in its constant use by friction, till finding every effort to succeed abortive, he *obliquely* courted the examination and advice of a *popular* farrier, standing very high in public estimation, whose sublimity of explanation certainly entitles him to general confidence.

He most sagaciously *discovered* and *observed*, 'a vein was *lost*, which could only be *recovered* by the application of a *strong blister*.' However strange or ridiculous a proposed remedy, so violent and extraordinary, may appear to the judicious or experienced reader, it met no opposition from the party concerned; for, coming from the high sounding authority of so much eminence, it was *hastily* procured, and as *rapidly* applied. I doubt not its effects may be much better conceived than described; external fire upon internal contraction could but add to the excruciating pain, or rather wanton persecution, of a subject suffering under such a succession of cruel and inconsiderate experiments.

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This account having been given me in recital, as well as the present state of the horse, I could not entertain a doubt of the flexor tendon's being punctured by the original operator, or lacerated by his successor, in the *daily probings* that were to effect so expeditious a cure. Proceeding, however, to the stables, I found the patient upon *three legs*, in a stall barely five feet wide, in a state of the greatest agony; his leg in an almost constant contractive motion, absolutely groaning with the extremity of pain, the whole limb perceptibly wasted, the frame emaciated, the joint much enlarged, the cicatrix exceedingly tender, bearing no pressure upon the tendon, and an uncommon stricture upon the surrounding parts, wherever the blister had taken effect; and, to render the business of inquiry complete, I found circumstances had varied very little for near two months, but that symptoms had continued nearly in the same state.

Every action, every predominant trait tending to corroborate my first opinion upon the case, I could not hesitate a moment to pronounce, that whatever had been the origin of the simple tumour (*perhaps a blow* that had,

however, never been ascertained), the cause of the present distressing scene was absolutely and beyond all possibility of doubt or contradiction, a puncture or laceration of the tendon.

Obscured as the case was, by what is too much the practice, *complicated opinions* and *various experiments*, in addition to the length of time since the injury had been sustained, great or sanguine hope of success was not to be entertained. I nevertheless observed, if the owner wished to adopt such system as alone seemed calculated to alleviate symptoms and afford relief, giving the whole a fair and persevering trial of three weeks or a month, without any perceptible advantage. I should then (however disagreeable the office must be) certainly not hesitate to advise the propriety of passing the only sentence that could extricate the subject from a life of extreme pain and perpetual misery.

My proposal having been instantly and most cheerfully acquiesced in by the great humanity and anxious wish for preservation in the owner, I ordered, *without delay*, a coach-house, or *open stable* to be procured (which was very  
luckily



luckily obtained in the same yard) and covered with litter, for his immediate reception, a parcel of hay being suspended at each end, to excite his alternate motion from one end to the other, when either bundle was consumed.

Ingredients were directly procured for the following decoction :

**TAKE** rosemary leaves, Roman wormwood, lavender flowers, marshmallow leaves, and camomile flowers, of each four ounces ; boil in ten quarts of water till reduced to eight, then strain.

The whole limb was then fomented (with two large pieces of sponge alternately, as hot as the decoction could be brought into use without danger) from the very stifle to the footlock joint, continuing it for a quarter of an hour *at least*, each time of using the fomentation, and repeating it three times a day at equal distances of time, rubbing in after every operation, upon the hough joint and neighbouring parts, a two ounce phial full of the following anodyne solution :

TAKE spirits of wine - one pint,  
           camphire - - - an ounce and a half,  
           opium - - - two drachms.

The camphire and opium were reduced to small pieces, then frequently shaken in the spirits till dissolved, and close stopped for use.

That no part of my plan might be omitted, tending in the least to promote a possibility of success, I continued in town a day extraordinary, to superintend the commencement and regulate the proceeding; was present during the first operation, leaving him at full liberty in the loose stable I had recommended (as the first probable step to improvement), not without some degree of hope, upon seeing him enjoy a seeming temporary suspension from pain, during the warmth of the fomentation, which he absolutely leaned to, and courted the application of, in a very particular manner.

From these applications (however well adapted to predominant symptoms and the exigency of the case) *infallible expectations* could not be formed; nevertheless, I had experimental reason and conviction to believe, the properly regulated

regulated heat, and frequency of the fomentation, might not only gradually reduce the rigid callosity of the integument and stricture upon the part where the blister had been applied, but also relax the porous system, giving admission to the anodyne for the reduction of irritability, and the corroborants to excite a degree of warmth and stimulus upon the internal parts.

However well founded any doubts of cure might have been, from the combined severities of the case, I was most agreeably deceived in the suspicious opinion I had formed; for little more than a fortnight brought me a letter of information, that every distressing symptom was alleviated; the horse fed well, and seemed almost free from pain; the stricture upon the joint was greatly subdued, and the local enlargement promised gradual reduction. A *second* account followed the *first* in a few days, from which it appeared, the horse lay down and got up with little difficulty, put his foot to the ground, bore a great part of the proportional weight upon it in motion, and even walked several steps in succession without halting. These encouraging appearances powerfully

fully dictated an unremitting perseverance in the mode of treatment already described, without the most trifling variation, which has succeeded so well, that a letter now lies before me from the owner, wherein he says, ‘The horse has been walked out twice, when he did not appear *the least* lame, and I hope he will be soon enabled to take his journey to Wokingham, there to profit by the winter’s run you have kindly provided for him. I am very glad to hear of the Supplement you mention, and hope soon to see it published. I think the *cure* of my own horse *an uncommon one.*’

As the introduction and illustration of cases may not be perfectly applicable to the expectation of those who wish to meet little more than a dictatorial arrangement of prescriptive matter, it will be perfectly in point, not only to explain their utility, but the cause of communication for general inspection.

The public having so extensively honoured the Stable Directory with such decided approbation, even in the infancy of its appearance, and before its *theory* could have been universally  
reduced

reduced to *practice*, it must afford the highest gratification in return, to receive corroborating and well authenticated proofs of the consistency of its reformation, and that the confidence so generously placed in the medical instructions, has suffered no prostitution or disgrace, amidst their numerous trials and critical investigations. However liberal the candid and impartial part of the world may have been in their encomiums upon the original work (or congratulations to the author), its contents could only appear to the public as mere matter of conjecture, (upon the propriety of which every reader had a substantial reason to entertain doubts), till such doubts were removed by a repetition of success, and a palpable confirmation of the acknowledged utility of improvement in practice.

Naturally reverting to one or another of the cases already recited, it must be perfectly apposite to repeat the absurdity, the wonderful inconsistency, of submitting the management of valuable (or indeed any) horses, to the strange and inconsiderate experiments of those who have no one qualification but their unbounded confidence

confidence (or rather impudence) to recommend them, or justify the dreadful havock they constantly make among this most useful part of the creation, if we may be fairly allowed to decide, by the great numbers annually doomed to death, in the penury and credulity of one class, or the invincible obstinacy and ignorance of the other.

The penury and credulity I allude to (and which cannot be too often or emphatically repeated), is that kind of saving knowledge in the employer, inevitably productive of a *double deception* ; for (without bestowing even a remote thought upon the defective abilities of the *employed*) his imagination outstripping reflection, rapidly reaches an *ideal cure* at the *least expence*, totally forgetting that self-preservation is a concomitant to low cunning, and consequently more is lavished upon the ignorant, obstinate, confident, or necessitous, for the promotion of mischief and danger, than would amply compensate the enlightened practitioner for his assistance in all cases of emergency. Numerous facts might be adduced to demonstrate the truth of these assertions (notwithstanding  
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the cautions so repeatedly advanced in different parts of the Directory,) some of which may perhaps appear hereafter.

It becomes, however, immediately applicable to observe (*even here*) how very much depends, in all cases of difficulty and danger, upon drawing that nice and critical line of distinction in the mode of treatment constituting *right or wrong*, consequently, destruction or cure. Notwithstanding the palpable necessity for such accurate investigation, time and observation daily demonstrate, in a variety of cases, the number of deaths that frequently happen, where it is absolutely natural to suppose the parties called in to *relieve*, had come with a fixed determination to *destroy*; justifying this idea by the many, who, not paying the least attention to Nature, or her indications, the origin, cause, or symptoms of disease, proceed to their *predetermined* applications (whether internals or externals) with no emulation to *inspire*, no reputation to *lose*, no refined sensations to *soften*, consequently no *anxious desire* to prompt a speedy alleviation of pain, or mitigation of sufferings in the animal, unluckily  
destined

destined to undergo a repetition of rash, cruel, and inconsiderate experiments.

To corroborate the justice of this remark, is it at all necessary to go farther in retrospection than the last case recited?—Can any rational practitioner, whose conduct is regulated by integrity, and a proper attention to the indications of Nature, come forward and explain, what could be expected from the repeated application of *strong mercurial ointment* by one operator, or the meaning of ‘a lost vein, and its intentional recovery by the use of a strong blister,’ in the other?

Whatever may have been the intent or expectation of *either*, the event has fully proved the facts so repeatedly urged beyond the power of contradiction; such unmeaning efforts of sterility can only be the combined effects of vanity and presumptuous impudence in the first; professional ignorance, or the most unlimited confidence and deception, in the latter.

Out of these considerations will arise conviction to such as do me the honour of attentive perusal,



perusal, that the major part of such pretenders to patronage merely possess abilities sufficient to proceed in their invariable system of imposition, with views very little beyond a constant and successful depredation upon the property of those who unfortunately require their assistance.

During the superintendence of the cases before recited, many of inferior consequence, but equally successful, intervened.—A gentleman of the first *popular eminence* in Surry, communicated a complete cure of the *grease* in one of his carriage horses by the strong diuretic balls, and a subsequent course of alteratives, after paying a tedious and implicit obedience to the dictates of a neighbouring farrier, without the *least prospect of success*.—Five instances have occurred in my own neighbourhood (exclusive of distant communications) where horses have been almost instantaneously relieved from the excruciating pain of cholic and fret, by the prescribed balls, after failure of the different farriers' *potations*, most powerfully impregnated with their favourite specific, *gin and pepper*; to which mistaken remedy, and obstinate attachment, I have known many fall victims, where  
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the inflammation has been *by these means* promoted, and Nature too much exhausted to admit the least relief.

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## T H O R N    W O U N D S.

NOTWITHSTANDING the general explanation of the different kinds of wounds, and their distinct modes of treatment, so fully enlarged on, under proper heads in the Stable Directory, there is a certain class not particularly noticed, that from their severity, bear so great an affinity to cases of punctured tendons, as to become (at the request of many respectable correspondents) the immediate subject of animadversion.

The inflammation, tension, pain, suppuration, and wounds, frequently arising from injuries sustained by thorns, nails, stubs, or other pointed substances equally prejudicial, are universally known to become not only  
exceed-

exceedingly troublesome, but often productive of great danger. The penetration of such can very seldom take place without the probability of disagreeable or alarming consequences ; if in the fore part of either leg, the periosteum, ligamentary parts, or articulation of the knee and footlock joints, may be severely affected ; if the back part of *either*, the tendon, by being punctured or lacerated, may receive irreparable injury. From these various chances, it is not at all surprising that lameness, originating in causes so trifling in their early appearance, should frequently prove so truly distressing in the event ; for it is well known but few of these accidents occur without terminating in suppuration and its tedious effects : and there can be no doubt but very many of those happen, from want of proper attention to circumstances, immediately after discovery of the injury sustained.

Punctures from thorns, in general, are considered merely as a temporary or superficial inconvenience, upon supposition that the integument is alone affected, without the least reference to parts more immediately and materially concerned. From such misconception and

error in judgment arise the disappointments that so frequently ensue in unexpected *formations of matter, ligamentary lameness, or tendinous contractions.*

Although the general mode of treatment has been in a great degree particularly explained in different parts of the original work, and will be still more enlarged on, it is absolutely impossible to descend to every minutiae, without becoming too tedious and desultory; some unforeseen symptoms will occur *in all cases* (after every possible description) to justify discretionary variations, and render such alterations unavoidable, as the predominant appearances may require.

Few perforations are made by substances of the above description but what constitute lameness in a *greater or less* degree, either of *long or short* duration: the examination cannot be made too soon, or the cause (if retained) too expeditiously extracted.

If the injury sustained be merely superficial, not penetrating enough to indicate consequences of the kinds before mentioned, the readiest

mild astringents become immediately applicable, to close the mouths of the lacerated vessels, and harden the surface. Of this class none can be better adapted than two tea-spoonfuls of Goulard's Extract of Saturn, with a large table spoonful of brandy; or, in want of the former, equal parts of vinegar and brandy will become an useful substitute. Two or three gentle bathings with *either* composition will in all slight cases generally effect the purpose, and prevent farther inconvenience.

On the contrary, should appearances not submit to these applications, but by swelling, constantly increasing pain, tension, and inflammation, threaten maturation, it will not admit of a doubt but the tendon has been in some degree punctured or lacerated; the ligamentary parts forming the union at the articulation of the joints injured, or a retention of extraneous matter has taken place from the orifice of the original wound.

In all, or either of these, the great hope of expeditious relief must depend solely upon the *proper and consistent* mode of treatment that is immediately adopted to promote suppuration;

the general error has been productive of inconceivable mischief. It has been the established custom to form a combination of the strongest stimulants human invention could devise, without a single reflection upon (or one moment reverting to) the TIME inevitably necessary for the extravasated contents to become *mature* for their discharge by a critical effort of nature.

It has been the universal and long standing practice, in all tumours or inflammatory swellings threatening a formation of matter, to rely *entirely* upon the effect of poultices (composed of the most powerful ingredients), calculated to stimulate the parts and excite early digestion. However judicious and approved this practice may have been, it will admit of some improvement, and even that justified by *reason* and *experience*; constantly observing (from the quantity of hair upon many horses, in addition to the thickness of the skin) how difficult it must be for the penetrative power of the poultice to come into immediate contact with the offending and indigested matter, as well as the long time necessary to obtain a discharge by *such means alone*; I, in almost every case of tumours, or

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inflammatory

inflammatory swellings, adopt the use of very *warm* fomentations for a considerable length of time preceding the application of each poultice (which should be renewed night and morning), and am perfectly convinced of the advantages gained by the practice. No professional animadversion is required to elucidate or justify this assertion ; the described state of the parts, and corresponding property of the application, sufficiently demonstrate the certainty of success dependent upon the execution ; for the good effect of such mode of treatment is not only evident in an early relaxation of the integument and porous system, but in a gradual communication to the seat of inflammation, being indubitably calculated to promote, *most powerfully*, a speedy and plentiful evacuation.

During a perseverance in this practice, it will be found no uncommon circumstance in such formations (more particularly in large inflammatory tumours), for Nature to make her efforts in two or three distinct places at the same time, where oozings may be perceived from the different apertures ; it will now be proper that every attention is paid to the nature

of the discharge, to ascertain the state of maturation, whether it is *partial* or *universal*: if the suppuration is perfect, and evidently ready for evacuation, let a superficial incision be made in length, adapted to the size of the tumour, and that at the lowest or most depending orifice (or situation of the part) that the discharge may become the more spontaneous, and impeded by no obstruction. But such operation should by no means (as is very frequently the case) be attempted till the part is properly prepared, and in need of assistance: over officiousness and eager impatience in counteracting or anticipating the indications of Nature, are often productive of those very disquietudes it is our interest to prevent.

Should the discharge consist of a bloody ichor, or a kind of watery indigested sanies, the maturation may be deemed *partial*, and exceedingly unfavourable. The swelling in such case is generally hard in one place and pliable in another, the wound (or different apertures, as it may be) displaying a fistulous appearance that threatens more consequence and inconvenience than a case of *universal* suppuration.

Tide



These appearances will require an increased perseverance in the repeated use of fomentation and poultice, adding more heat to the former, and emollients to the latter, continuing each twice a day without remission. Increase the circulation and invigorate the system by *an ounce of bark* in powder (given in gruel), or a *pectoral cordial ball* every morning, and correct the acrimony in the blood and juices by one of *the alterative powders* in the feed of corn every evening : these attentions will generally effect a salutary change in the constitution, and produce a promising discharge of healthy matter.

Too much caution cannot be introduced to prevent the opening of tumours or swellings of any kind, before the contents are sufficiently softened (or ripe) for discharge. Such premature operation never fails to give a rigid callosity to the edges of the wound ; and they cannot unite so favourably as when the case is more judiciously conducted.

Where *sinuses* are superficial (as for instance, from one aperture to another of those before described), and the integument is becoming putrid by the corrosive quality of the matter,

an immediate separation with the bistory, or *dissecting knife and director*, is the best practice, as the divided parts soon slough off with the dressings, and make way for succeeding incarnation.

Should *sinuses* lead to remote parts, or so surround the joints as to forbid (or render dangerous) the use of an instrument, let them be daily syringed with tincture of myrrh, so long as the wound continues foul and unfavourable ; when it is thoroughly cleansed, and assumes a promising aspect, let the injection be altered to half tincture and half warm water, continuing its use at each dressing, which should be regularly persevered in night and morning.

In wounds of this description, the rapid growth of *fungus* (commonly called proud flesh) is almost incredible : this should be carefully attended to in the infancy of its appearance, and, if at all luxuriant, must be repeatedly touched *in various directions*, with the edge of a lancet, bistory, pen-knife, or any other applicable instrument exceedingly sharp ; then dressed with a substantial pledget of the following

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ing precipitate ointment, covered with the warm stable digestive, and a bandage best adapted to the part affected :

TAKE red precipitate, finely powdered, half an ounce ; yellow basilicon two ounces ; and let them be well incorporated upon a marble slab for use.

When the fungus is entirely subdued, and the cure nearly completed, this ointment may be omitted : but I believe it can be very rarely laid aside with propriety ; for I find in my general practice, it is almost impossible to relinquish it *totally*, the excrescence continuing to shoot, in many cases, till the wound is *perfectly healed*.

This mode of treatment will also be found most strictly applicable to broken knees of any considerable consequence, without distinction, some very remarkable cases of which have fallen under my inspection, that have had their different terminations : of the most singular was the *very horse* whose “ ligamentary lameness ” in the hip joint is described in the *third case*, that has a very short time since lost his life, after being  
totally

totally ruined by a broken knee, received upon a projecting flint in the road between Henley and Wargrave, that, separating the ligamentary union of articulation at the joint, not only produced an immediate hourly increasing inflammatory and incredible enlargement of the *whole limb*, but a fixed contraction (without the power of even resting the foot on the ground), in opposition to every attempt to relieve, by three of the most eminent practitioners in the centre of the royal studs, when, after the fairest exertions for some weeks, he was unavoidably doomed to the death it was impossible to prevent.

A second, much more severe in external appearance than the foregoing, was a bred mare (got by an Arabian, late in possession of Sir T. Rumbold, now of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales), the property of the owner of the farcy mare (described in case the second), and was attended with equal success; for although the integument and soft parts of the knee were entirely destroyed, as if taken off with an instrument (by a violent fall on a very hard gravel road in Windsor Forest) so as almost to destroy every expectation of cure; yet by a daily reduction of  
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the *fungus*, and strict attention to the conformation of the edges of the wounds, a cicatrix was formed, and cure completed, bidding defiance to the eye or touch of the most judicious investigator ; which is the more extraordinary, as the colour of the mare is a delicate grey. This case is only quoted to prove the possibility of preventing these accidents from becoming so perpetually prejudicial, when properly attended to ; while on the contrary, they become irreparable injuries, in being left to the course of nature ; for, suffered to cicatrize with a prominence constituting an *eschar*, they prove an irretrievable blemish, that a very few days proper attention (in most cases) would probably prevent.

Having gone through every necessary instruction that can be possibly advanced for the treatment and cure of the different kinds of lameness proceeding from various causes, one additional remark cannot be too forcibly inculcated, nor too strictly observed. It is the great advantage to be gained in the progress and confirmation of every cure, from the use of an *open stable, bay of a barn*, or such other proper receptacle, in preference to a very absurd custom,

tom, exceedingly common (but more particularly in the metropolis, perhaps from the general want of room) of confining a horse by the head, labouring under a severe and tedious lameness, in a stall so very narrow, that it is *absolutely impossible* for him to enjoy one single extended motion in a state of nature ; his situation is in fact so contracted that he is rendered incapable of exerting his powers, or knowing his own strength. He has no room for the most trifling action but in a compulsive position, and can move from *side to side only*, under every restraint and disadvantage.

To establish and render complete the cure of infirmities proceeding from relaxed, punctured, or lacerated tendons, ligamentary lameness, thorn wounds, or indeed almost any other cause, liberty, under certain limits, (as before described) should have equal weight with every other consideration ; and this can be effected in no one way so well as the line of mediocrity already pointed out ; for in such moderate receptacle they not only acquire a perfect knowledge of their own state and ability, but by gentle efforts, voluntary motion, and gradual use, the relaxed or defective parts recover their  
former

former tone and elasticity ; while, on the contrary, by turning *invalids* out too soon to open pasture (or with other horses), after severe injuries of this kind, they often, forgetting (or not conscious of) their late deficiencies, become full of action and play, upon obtaining their liberty, and are not unfrequently returned to the stable in a *worse state* than at the origin of complaint.

Previous to the conclusion of such complicated remarks as have been introduced for the purport of general information (calculated in respect to *minute particulars*, much more for the totally *uninformed* than the very many sportsmen who, possessing a portion of experience, stand in need of no instruction), it becomes a matter of indispensable necessity to add a few words upon the great danger (in fact cruelty) of adhering closely to some parts of ancient practice, that have no one plea but their antiquity, and the invincible obstinacy of their advocates, to recommend them.

Of this class none stand in a more conspicuous or ridiculous point of view than those who,  
I have

I have observed in the body of the work, persist ‘ in a maxim, never to be obliterated, that ‘ *old laws, old times, and old books, are best.*’ Among these, none are more destructive in their perseverance than those who, in opposition to every judicious opinion, every enlightened refinement, and experimental conviction of the certain danger (and often fatal consequence), continue to give COLD WATER, during the process of PURGING MEDICINES, under the *contemptible assertion and pretended belief*, that it adds to the *ease* and *certainty* of the operation.

That this is a deceptive custom, shamefully persevered in by numbers of the illiterate and confident, without the knowledge, and against the decided opinion, of their employers, is a fact too notorious *with me* to admit of contradiction ; and one of those, upon the ill effects of which has been founded objections to *physic*, though in many instances the danger has been attributed to more remote causes, and *the truth* (from fatal consequences) has never been ascertained.

Cases



Cases of this kind have occurred, within my own knowledge, where the *cause* has been confessed, when the effect was unerringly perceptible ; both the *pores* and the intestines (already preternaturally relaxed by the administration of medicine, additional cloathing, and surrounding warmth) suffer sudden collapse, by the *styptic* power of the *frigid* element producing an almost instantaneous obstruction to every secretion ; the perspirative matter thus obstructed, is directly fixed in the extremities, constituting *rheumatic pains*, that frequently terminate in *palsy* ; or its effects upon the stomach and intestines, then in the highest state of irritability, are found to produce the most excruciating *colic*, *spasms*, *convulsions*, *inflammation* or *mortification*, that in either case generally ends in death ; though lingering instances are frequently seen, where eight, ten, or twelve days of dreadful anxiety precede the termination.

These remarks upon so critical a subject are introduced to point out the certain danger, and to suppress, if possible, so absurd, so inconsiderate, and contemptible a practice, that, it is  
natural

natural to conclude, can be continued but from a motive of inherent obstinacy, determined *not to be convinced*, amidst all its dreadful consequence. I am, however, most earnestly induced to hope, from an anxious and unalterable desire to improve the subject and reform the practice, that the ancient adage of ‘ Better late than never,’ and due reflection, will be productive of a gradual reformation, particularly when it is now universally known, and acknowledged by every impartial observer, that the instructions in the former part of the Directory, for management in PHYSIC, have undergone the ordeal of public investigation, and been honoured with general approbation.

THE

DISEASE IN THE CANINE SPECIES,

CALLED

THE DISTEMPER.

THERE can be no doubt but the inferiority of this subject, to the magnitude of the former, will prove matter of observation to those whose principal inquiries are directed more to the discovery of defects, than the applause of perfections. These *few* will, however, bear no proportion to the large body of liberal minded *sportsmen* to whom it is principally addressed, and for whose use it is almost solely communicated. Nor would it *even now* have been obtruded, upon public opinion, but at the particular request of gentlemen who, having profited by the instructions, were anxious for the promotion of general utility.

It may, with the strictest justice, be permitted to boast some degree of affinity to the subject so largely treated on, when it is considered how very common an appendage one animal is to the other ; so much so, that in field sports their safety and perfections seem not only to go *band in band*, but it is difficult (out of the metropolis) to find the professor of a horse, or horses, that thinks himself at all equipped without hounds, greyhounds, pointers, spaniels, or terriers, in his train also.

Under the influence of this observation, I can possess no fear of its favourable reception among those who fairly investigate the rationality of medical innovation, or condescend to court and patronise experimental improvement ; presuming upon the numerous and flattering plaudits bestowed upon my former publications, I can hesitate but little in submitting to inspection the observations I have made upon a disease, whose annual destruction is generally known, in every part of the kingdom, with no other description or definition in origin, cause, or effect, than “ THE DISTEMPER ;” of which having endeavoured for some years to form an opinion with such

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accuracy,

accuracy as predominant symptoms and appearances would permit, I shall transmit them, with the mode of treatment that has hitherto (particularly under my own execution) proved successful, without a *single loss*, to justify a doubt of the practice, when properly persevered in.

It is now near twenty years since I commenced my observations upon the nature and indications of the disease in question, and found, by my inquiries from others, and my own occasional remarks, the remedies generally adopted and esteemed *infallible specifics*, were calculated so little to counteract or remove the predominant symptoms of distress in the animal, that it produced no surprise, not more, than *one in twenty* should recover when attacked with the usual severity.

In my endeavours to form some rational idea of the origin or cause of complaint, I could furnish *from others* not the least assistance; from all the information I could collect, (even from the most confident and self-sufficient) was, that ‘the disorder was in *the* ‘*head*, and a green (or seton) in the poll, in

‘ the manner of an issue, was the only remedy ‘ to be relied on.’—Of this general concise explanation and cure I so far availed myself, as not to omit the inspection of a single subject in my own neighbourhood, where the *received opinion* might be justified or disproved by the event. And I must candidly declare, after months of the strictest attention, I never could perceive a greater proportion than *one in ten* recover from the supposed effect of this *infallible green or seton*; and therefore we may very fairly infer, those that recover under this practice, derive their cure much more from the assistance and efforts of Nature, than the effect of so uncertain and inapplicable a remedy.

Finding so little satisfaction or truth in this part of the general opinion, I became more anxious to discover how far ‘ *the bead*,’ as before mentioned, was the seat of disease; but, after every minute attention, and incessant observation (even with my own pointers and spaniels in succession), I could discover no one trait of consequence, to justify the idea, nearer than a tumefaction of the glandular parts on each side the throat, which, in a  
greater

greater or less degree, affected the different subjects, according to the mildness or malignity of disease.

Previous to the more particular description of prevalent symptoms in the animals labouring under the complaint, a few general observations may be introduced without the least digression. I plainly perceived the disease to be much more *epidemic* than *infectious*, and that the time of attack varied in the different kinds; but that the ratios of nineteen in twenty were affected before they were *twelve-months old*. I observed hounds, greyhounds, pointers, and the larger dogs, were usually attacked between eight months old and twelve; while spaniels, terriers, and the smaller kinds, suffered between four months and nine. I also remarked the females were in general much less afflicted than the males; many escaping entirely, and those that did not, were neither so severely affected, nor for so great a duration.

Having, about the exact time of forming my predetermined chain of observations, young pointers and spaniels in my possession, upon

whose breed I had every reason to fix considerable estimation, they not only soon gave me opportunity to become exceedingly accurate in my remarks, but to adopt such remedies as I should find most applicable (in my opinion) to the symptoms of disease.

Of these, a pointer, of nearly eight months old, was the first attacked. The earliest symptoms of disease were dullness, loathing of food, frequent sickness, and constant vomiting: these producing in a few days great depression and lassitude, were soon followed by perpetual huskiness in the throat, and difficulty of respiration; the nose remarkably dry, and mouth exceedingly hot, with occasional strainings to evacuate by stool without discharge.

Not having been able to reconcile to myself the least prospect of success from the usual operation of ‘burning a green in the poll’ with a *red hot iron*, under an idea of the complaints being in the head, and having from hourly attention, as well as the most accurate observation, every reason to believe the disease particularly affected the *throat*, *stomach*, and *intestines*, it was natural I should  
advent



advert to such remedies as were more immediately adapted to those parts. My first intent was to promote evacuation, under a perfect conviction there must be a very violent obstruction in the stomach or some part of the intestines: to remove which, I prepared a small ball with a scruple of *jalap*, four grains of *calomel*, and two of *ginger*; forming it into a proper consistence with *conserve of hips*, then covering it with a small portion of *fresh butter* to facilitate its passage, gave it in that form; where it remained no longer than during its solution in the stomach, almost instantly returning in a state of liquefaction, entirely unaccompanied by any other substance whatever: this I repeated five or six times in less than three days, with no better success.

As the disease advanced in respect to *time*, the general symptoms became more violent; the animal, from the first attack, having never taken any food but warm milk (and that in the most trifling quantities), was incredibly emaciated: there was a very great contraction and hollowness of the flank, occasioned by a perceptible stricture of the muscles, that, producing an hourly increasing weakness of

the loins, seemed to indicate the approach of inevitable dissolution; the *binder parts* had absolutely declined, and could *no longer* perform their office; when lifted up he could not stand without support, his hind legs sinking under him; and, by the frequent twitchings and convulsive spasms, he seemed encountering the agonies of *immediate* death.

No refinement of thought, no sublimity of expression, is necessary to convey a description of the present dilemma. Every sportsman, whose mind is embellished by the nicer sensations, and whose heart is instinctively open to alleviate the sufferings of these partners of, and contributors to, our pleasures, these nocturnal protectors of our property, as well as the many (*though no sportsmen*) who have their favourites of the different species, and are no strangers to their *attachments, fidelity, and gratitude*, have, no doubt, *some time or other*, stood in a similar predicament.

Convinced, by the state of the extended subject, nothing could be expected but *death*, any rational experiment, that could be put into immediate practice, was perfectly justifiable,

fiable, to promote a further investigation of the cause, or very slender and improbable *chance* of the mitigation or cure of disease. Almost hopeless of even time sufficient to administer the medicine; I prepared a ball, containing three grains of *emetic* tartar, and ten of *jalap*, forming the mass, and passing it as before. I also incorporated one ounce of the spirit of hartshorn (by frequent shaking) with a quarter of a pint of olive oil, and bathed all the affected parts of the throat, so as to leave the hair underneath the neck plentifully charged with the composition.

For rather more than half an hour, during the solution of the ball, and its consequent effect upon the stomach, the subject seemed to undergo the most painful sensations; agitating vibrations (or tremblings) of the whole frame were very frequent; his eyes, *nearly closed*, seemed totally fixed, and the foam issuing from both sides of his mouth (as he lay extended at his utmost length), left not the least expectation of ever seeing him *even once more* upon his legs; when suddenly rising (after repeated efforts) a perfect frame or skeleton, and reeling three or four feet from the

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the carpet he was laid on, threw up (with very little exertion or straining) near half a pint of viscid limpid coagulum, so tenacious and adhesive that there was not the least possibility of partial separation. After this emotion, he could not return to the spot he had arisen from without assistance ; to which, being carried and laid down, he appeared somewhat more at ease.

Still convinced no satisfactory termination could be obtained, or even expected, without farther exertions; and not entertaining the least doubt, by symptoms before described, but the intestines were equally the seat of disease, and principally concerned in the origin of complaint, without the power of reaching *that cause* by any other means, I was determined to persevere in my experiments, and proceeded accordingly in the following preparation :

Strong decoction of rue, half a pint ;  
 Lenitive electuary, and common salt, of each a quarter  
 of an ounce ;  
 Olive oil, two table-spoonfuls.

These

These being properly mixed were administered as a glyster, of warmth sufficient to stimulate the internal parts to action.

This was however expelled almost instantly upon its injection, with great rapidity, as having met some obstacle in its course through the intestine, which served only to excite an unremitting perseverance to obtain relief; particularly as I had sufficient reason to believe, by every look and *endeavouring action* of the animal, that he had already found some degree of mitigation by the evacuation from his stomach and the relaxation of the intestine. The glyster was repeated in two hours, with an almost immediate ejection, producing no other advantage than additional alleviation of predominant symptoms; the subject became evidently more at ease, displaying in his looks certain marks of relief; the stricture upon the abdominal muscles was considerably reduced, and I had little doubt but the state of the stomach and intestines was in some degree altered by the salutary discharge from the former, as well as the good effect and warmth of the internal fomentation upon the other.

Appear-

Appearances so highly gratifying (and those produced in a few hours by experiments new and uncertain) afforded me the best encouragement to exert every endeavour that could tend to crown the event with success. In about an hour after the last operation, a plate of bread and milk was offered, boiled well together; supporting the head and fore parts from the ground as he lay, in hopes he might be able to take a small portion of nutriment, that would assist exhausted Nature and support the frame; he however, after giving proof of his inclination so to do, failed in the attempt from *absolute weakness*, and was compelled to decline it.

Notwithstanding this failure, every other circumstance tended to convince me the dog was in some degree mending: confirmed, beyond a doubt, where the obstacle lay, and firmly persuaded the *foundation of relief* was already communicated, I, for the first time, became enlivened with a ray of expectation it might be totally removed. To accomplish this very desirable point, I was determined no time, no trouble, on my part, should be omitted, and therefore dedicated the *following night* to a  
verification

verification of that excellent motto and excitement to industry, "*Persevere and conquer.*" The subject continued to become much less disquiet, not a symptom but appeared less violent, and he even dosed without extreme pain. In the middle of the night I repeated the glyster, which was then retained a considerable time, and again discharged, as thrown up without the least appearance of, or admixture with, excrement.

After this retention and evacuation of the injection, he tottered, unsupported, to his bed, and lay down evidently better. In less than an hour after this effort and emotion, he took, with some degree of eagerness, the bread and milk that had been prepared (previously warmed); about eight in the morning I renewed my injection, which, after being retained for at least ten minutes, came away with a large portion of *discoloured crudities*, as if brought from the interstices of the intestines by the repeated washings of the injection.— This produced additional and very striking advantages: he was seemingly relieved in all respects, the stricture of the muscles upon the intestines, and the contraction of the loins, were

were both evidently better, and the violence of every former symptom promised gradually to subside; he soon took, and continued to take, occasional supplies of the bread and milk well boiled, of thin consistence, for the purpose.

The glysters were repeated every four or five hours, without remission, with little variation in advantage and appearance, till ten or eleven had been given, their good effects being plainly perceptible in every repetition; when, after a succession of severe trials and repeated strainings for many minutes, one entire mass was voided, composed of every kind of extraneous substance such animal could have been supposed to swallow with food during its puppyism. It clearly consisted of grass or hay, wonderfully matted or interwoven with hair, and particles of sand or gravel cemented together so *exceedingly hard*, that it might be fairly supposed to have been prepared by art, and passed through a mould by some instrument or powerful pressure.

This extraordinary expulsion occasioned no surprise; on the contrary, it removed every  
suspense—



suspense—confirmed every suspicion—and left no one doubt of the *cause* of complaint or *certainty of cure*. The animal, almost from this moment, became a new subject, demonstrating in every action, his change of situation; notwithstanding which, the operation, in a few hours, was *once more repeated*, and in its effect brought away some loose remains exactly corresponding with the substances before described. From this time he suffered no farther inconvenience but what was the result of previous pain, want of nutriment, and bodily debilitation: he continued daily to improve not only in his renewed establishments of health, but, the ensuing season, in his expected qualifications; after which I parted with him, for a very valuable consideration, to a gentleman going to Scotland, who purchased him with an avowed intent to improve the breed, he being perhaps as fine a figure, with *size, bone, speed, and perfection*, as ever entered the field.

To this succeeded, in a very short space of time, the case of a young spaniel, in *every respect the same*, but with much less severity; the symptoms, in fact, were not violent to  
alarm,

alarm, and being exceedingly slight, were immediately counteracted by the same means, with a very slender portion of perseverance.

Perfectly successful in these attempts, and gratified in the effect of experiments planned only upon my own private opinion and observations, with an intent to ensure (if possible) the certainty of cause and probability of cure, it will not be thought extraordinary, I wished for, and even courted, opportunities to justify, or render nugatory, the discovery I was so anxious to ascertain.

I soon found it impossible to succeed in my investigation and pursuit with subjects the property of others; there I could only advise or recommend (without the power of absolute dictation), where, probably, various circumstances—the pride, indolence, or peculiarities, of the parties might prevent the performance of either one or the other.

During my increased desire to proceed in such speculative inquiry, a brace of pointer puppies were brought me by a gentleman from Banbury in Oxfordshire, of so good a breed,

and so high in estimation, that the *fire* was sent for from *Newport Pagnel* in *Buckinghamshire*, to the dam at Banbury, merely for this single act of procreation. These were both attacked in their *seventh month*, and within a few days of each other; one being in figure—shape—marks, and promising appearance—very much like the dog before described, had already (and perhaps from that very reason), become a great favourite; and to *this* every attention, every ceremony and operation hitherto explained was rigidly performed (as no two cases could be ever more strictly alike), with no alteration in form, no variation in effect, but exactly corresponding in every particular with the case first recited: the symptoms were all equally violent, the danger as great, the cure as improbable, and the recovery as perfectly complete.

This case occurred in the summer of 1781, and the dog is now in possession of a gentleman at Binfield in Windsor Forest, who has repeatedly declared he should *never change his master*: and it may not be inapplicable to add, he even *now* possesses all the perfections of a young dog: and when he was my property,

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a neighbouring friend repeatedly offered to hunt him in the field, and oppose his good qualities against any *single* pointer in the county for a hundred guineas. Thus were two of the finest dogs in the kingdom preserved by the effect of experiments, that had they not been brought into trial could never have proved successful.

Whatever might have been my predominant wish respecting the other subject of disease, professional engagements totally precluded every possibility of bestowing the same personal attendance upon *both*, had they been equally high in my estimation: this very want of opportunity had nevertheless its convenience, so far as it contributed to establish the practice I had adopted with so much promised success. The usual symptoms continued to increase with the violence so particularly described in the first case, till the fourteenth day, when the slight spasms and twitchings produced convulsions of some duration; from these he sometimes continued perfectly free for four or five hours, when they returned with increasing severity, but frequent intermission; on the eighteenth day they became incessant, rendering

ing the fight truly distressing, and closing the scene, after a convulsive fit of near four hours, without the least deviation or relief.

From the event of this *unassisted* case, (as well as many others among my sporting friends), in direct contrast to those already recited, I had a very fair and undoubted plea to gratulate myself upon a discovery that had hitherto promised every hope of success upon repetition, and justly laid claim to the test of *farther trial*, when *time* should afford opportunity for additional demonstration.

Such proofs have since occurred as leave no room to doubt the propriety of the practice, first in a pointer, son of the dog whose recovery is before-mentioned, and now in a gentleman's possession at Binfield, who was attacked when about nine months old; and, though not affected with the severity of the two pointers whose cases have gone before, (perhaps in consequence of the remedies being brought *very early* into use), yet he suffered so much from the disease, as to render his recovery for some days a matter of great uncertainty. The mode of treatment so particularly explained

was punctually adhered to, in both the emetic ball and repetition of the glysters; the effect proved equally favourable; and although the evacuations were not critically the same, they were nearly similar to those in the cases of recovery before described. This dog proved equally valuable in field qualifications with his fire; and was disposed of at the request of a gentleman of fortune in the neighbourhood, to whose generosity I stood indebted for innumerable instances of his partiality.

If I had the least reason to entertain doubts of the success of my endeavours, and earnestly wished another case to establish the point beyond all cause of controversy, such additional proof soon occurred, leaving every instance in favour of the attempt and practice, without a single counteraction to justify a doubt of its consistency.

The constantly increasing claims upon professional attention to objects of greater importance, having induced a *suspension of the gun*, with the disposal of my pointers, an inviolable (or rather *invincible*) attachment to the species soon procured me an epitome of the fashion, in  
a brace

a brace of terriers ; and such being obtained in preference from *a palace* (rather than the cottage), were equally remarkable for their breed and beauty, soon becoming, as *pointers had been*, objects of adequate attention. Of these the male was attacked under six months old, in every respect as all the others that had been subjects of my observation, and with so much continued severity, and increasing violence of symptoms, that I did not entertain either expectation or idea of its recovery. The same plan of operation was pursued as with all the rest, varying the proportions only to age, size, and strength (by reducing the composition of the ball to two grains of emetic tartar, and eight of jalap, and the glysters to half the quantity given to larger dogs), till his recovery was ascertained to a certainty, and he is now in my possession, with the female, that has never been at all attacked, at least to become perceptible. This was the *fifth* successful trial upon animals under my own inspection, and not to be controverted by the pique or prejudice of those who may conceive the matter too trifling for the press, or the species too insignificant for the process.

Having,

Having, however (speaking from experimental sensations), every reason to believe there are of all classes great numbers who would most readily encounter not only fatigue, but difficulty and expence, to extricate from disease and threatening death favourites of this species, it is from the flattering hope of their plaudits, that I have gone entirely out of the line of *literary ambition*, and descended to the descriptive minutiae of a subject that may, from the more SUBLIME and DIGNIFIED practitioner, undergo every possible accusation of professional degradation, from which I court *no exculpation*, solicit *no acquittal*, make *no appeal*, but to the more decisive and honourable opinion of the *sporting world in general*, to whose encouraging partiality it is solely addressed, and to whose consideration and particular use it is most respectfully submitted.

T H E E N D.



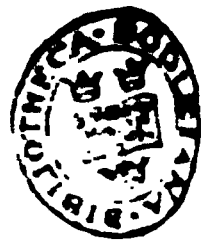

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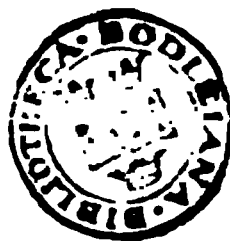
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